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PUBLIC PAPERS

OF

GEORGE CLINTON,

FIRST GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK.

1777-1795—1801-1804.

VOLUME III.

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PREFACE TO VOLUME III.

The scene of conflict was transferred from New York State during 1778, but the exposed condition of the frontiers was a constant source of anxiety to the backwoodsman and to the State authorities. The contents of this volume are given more to civil than to military operations inasmuch as the young State had just begun to keep house and the governmental machinery had not adjusted itself to changed conditions. The Tories were giving the Americans more or less trouble, and every person who refused to take the oath of allegiance was incontinently shipped to New York.

The principal events that happened during this year were the acknowledgment of American Independence by Louis XVI of France, who signed the treaty of Alliance and Commerce in February, the acquisition of Baron Steuben to the American forces, the effort on Lord North's part to establish peace negotiations with America, and his sending the Earl of Carlisle, George Johnstone and William Eden as peace commissioners, who were repudiated by Congress because of the attempt of Johnstone to bribe Colonel Joseph Reed, a delegate from Pennsylvania, the signing of the Articles of Confederation by eleven of the States, including New York, the arrival of M. Gerard, the first minister from France, the appointment of Benjamin Franklin as our first minister to France, the conquest of the northwestern territory by General George Rogers Clarke and the selection of John Jay of New York as president of Congress.

In military matters, the evacuation of Philadelphia by the British, June 18th, followed by the battle of Monmouth, ten days

later, the arrival of the French fleet under Count d'Estaing at Sandy Hook and the horrible massacres of Wyoming and Cherry Valley are subjects which the poet, the historian and the novelist have drawn liberally upon. Washington's army went into winter quarters in huts from Danbury, Connecticut, to Elizabethtown, New Jersey.

HUGH HASTINGS,
State Historian.

State Capitol, Albany, August 9, 1900.

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Public Papers of George Clinton.

MSS. VOLUME IV (Continued).

MANUSCRIPT VOL. IV.

(CONTINUED).

[No. 1153.]

CLINTON LOOKING AFTER HIS FRONTIER.

Believes That of More Importance Than a Northern Expedition—Depleted Condition of New York.

Poughkeepsie 8th March 1778.

Sir. On the 3d Inst. I did myself the Honor of acknowledging the Receipt of your Letter of the 27th Ultimo, inclosing one to his Excellency Genl. Washington which I have forwarded to Head Quarters by a safe Hand. Rest assured, Sir, it will always afford me Pleasure to serve you, tho' it may not be amiss to inform you, that Expresses from hence to Head Quarters are not so frequent as you are lead to believe, so that, to prevent Delay you will please to mention when your Letters are of such a Nature as that you woud wish them to be forwarded by Express, & it shall be done.

I am also favoured with your Letter of the 3d Instant. It can't be of much Importance to know what the Fools & the Mad say concerning the Northern Expedition; I have the Pleasure to assure you, Sir, that the Sober & Wise, with whom I have had an Opportunity of conversing on the Subject, fully approve your Conduct on the Occassion, tho' I cant with equal Justice add, that those who planned the Enterprize without providing properly for its Execution pass without a Share of Censure.

[illegible] the two Companies of Vanschaik's Regiment, [illegible] Service at Schohary. & if the Idea of the North-[illegible] Expedition is entirely given up by Congress and the Disposition of the Indians shoud be in the least Doubtful, a few more Troops in that Quarter may be necessary for the Protection of the Frontiers.

I have the utmost Reason to believe that there [are] a number of Persons imployed recruiting for the Enemy's Service in the Neighbourhood of Albany. & that they have been but too successfull in that Business. Some Important Information, which I received on this Subject, I transmitted three Days ago, with the Names of a Number of the Persons concerned, to the Mayor of the City of Albany, and desired him to apply to the Commanding Officer for Aid to apprehend them—perhaps this may produce a further Discovery of the Conspiracy you mention, & enable you by a sudden Stroke to crush it in an early Stage. It is with Pain I confess that too little Pains have been taken to recruit our Army.

At first setting out the Hopes of Reconciliation injured us greatly; it induced many to consider the War to be a mere Temporary Business & since, we have not been as Industrious as we might & ought to have been. This State has been the Scene of War almost from the Beginning. & considering the many Disadvantages it labours under on that account, & for Internal Enemies much more coud not have been reasonably expected from it.

The Defence of the River is an Object of the last Importance to America. Little is yet done for its Security tho I have used [illegible]tion in my Power to effect it. We are now busied [illegible]tia of this State & I have called on Mas-

sachusetts & Connecticut to furnish 2000 of theirs to assist in the Defence of the River & Country. I am much of the Oppinion that there is not a Command in which a Gentleman may have a better Opportunity of distinguishing himself than that which Genl. Putnam now holds & shoud it be your Lott to succeed him the Change will afford real, Pleasure to your Most Obed't Serv.

[G. C.]

I am sorry I am not able to send you a word of News. I have not a single Paper at present worth reading. The first I get you shall have.

[To Marquis de Lafayette.]

[No. 1154.]

Clinton Reports to Washington That He Has Sent a Large Supply of Pork to His Army.

Poughkeepsie 8th March 1778.

Dear Sir, I wrote your Excellency the 5th Instant,* informing you of the little Success I had in procuring a present Supply of Provission for the Army under your immediate Command. I am now happy in being able to tell you that since that Time, I have had collected at the different Posts in West Chester County so much more as will make in the whole 1700 barrels pork, which are all on the Way towards Head Quarters. I expect the last of it will pass the River at King's Ferry and New Burgh Tomorrow. I beg Leave to suggest to your Excellency the Propriety of sending faithful Active Officers to the different Posts on the Route to forward it on. Genl. Parsons is furnished with Ample Authority to cause an Impress of Teems &

*See page 366, Volume II.

Carriages to be made in this State for the Purpose and I am perswaded he has & will continue to exert himself on the Occassion.

I have taken the Liberty to inclose a Letter I have wrote to Congress inclosing a Copy of one to the State of Connecticut which as they treat of Military Matters I have left open for your Excellency's persual; you will please to have them sealed & forwarded. If they contain any Thing inconstent with the good of the Service at large your Excellency will be able to point out to Congress wherein I have Erred, so as to prevent any Mischief they might occassion. I am with the most perfect Esteem & Regard Your Excellency's Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

His Excellency Genl. Washington.

[No. 1155.]

Clinton Urges Expedition in Forwarding the Captured Ordnance

Poughkeepsie 9 March 1778.

Sir, I am this day favoured with your Letter of the 28 Febry. Ulto. I am happy to find that the proper measures have been taken for bring'g the Cannon left at Toconderoga &c. by the Enemy to Albany and for Stocking and mount'g them; in the Execution of which there cannot be too much Dispatch used as they will be wanted Immediately on the opening of the River I am not able to supply you with the Iron you want from this Quarter. Colo. Hay D. Q. M. G'l for the Northern Departm't must supply you with this and every other article you may need for this business.

I wrote to Colo. Livingston respecting Iron that might be wanted for the Northward and I suppose upon proper applica

tion he may get it there if not he must endeavour to provide it elsewhere as that business must not be delayed on any account. I am Sir your

[G. C.]

Major Ebenezer Stevens.

[No. 1156.]

THE CASE OF JOHN LINK.

Accused of Bribing Two Officers for Securing Relief from Certain Military Duty.

North East Presinct Dutches County March 9th 1778.

May it Please your Excelency, The Committee of Northeast Precinct have upon due Consideration thought Propper to present to you the Inclosed Proceedings of this Committee Respecting Jno. Links Bribeing Capt. James Wilsson and Jno. Gage, in Order to obtain a Discharge from the Conductor then going to Albany with the Slays from this Presinct, and, S'r, we Humbly beg Leave to Submitt the Matter to your Honnour to Devise propr Steps to be taken in the Affair.

We Remain your Sinceer friends & Humble Servants. By Order of the Committee.

Casper Rouse Chair'n.

His Excelency Geo. Clinton.

JOHN LINK'S STATEMENT.

North East Presinct. In Committee Chamber March 9th 1778.

Mr. John Link came before this Committee (having been Cited) to Shew Reasons if any he had why he did not Parrade with his Slay and Horses at the House of Peter Knickerbacker, on the 17th of Feb'y last, in order to proced to Albany to the Q. M. G., said

Link having been Previously Notified or Impressed, according to an Order & Request of the Senate & Assembly of this State to Suply the Q. M. G. on a Sudden Exegency &c.

Mr. Link aledged that he had Done a great deal of Labour one time and another, and had nothing for it, & that in fact he never knew that he was pitched on for one to Drive a Slay, and that he Gave Capt. James Wilson and Jno. Gage Ten Pounds, to git him Discharged from going up in the Service to the Q. M. Gen.

On Consideration of the Matter; it appearing to this Com'ttee that Some Clandestine Measures had been taken by Some persons Respecting said Jno. Links being Discharged &c.—and Resolved that Mr. Jno. Link be put on his oath.

John Link being Sworn Saith, That after he was impressed into the Service with his Slay & Horses, he Offered Ten pounds to one Bugbee to go with his Horses and Slay and Drive but he would not—& further that one John Gage Came to him and told him it was very hard for so old a Man to Go up, and askt what he would Give him, if he would get him Clear'd, he said he told him he would give him Ten Pounds, Gage Said to him, that Capt. Wilson and he had talkt about it, and that they would try to git him Discharged, and that after he was Discharged he Spoke to Capt. Wilson and Jno. Gage, and told them why now [illegible] what I promised you, but I have not so much [illegible] with me as Ten pounds; that Capt. Wilson Spoke and [illegible] the five pounds to Jno. Gage and we are [illegible] and [illegible] Settle any time, and that [illegible] Wilson [illegible] and Whether he Intends to [illegible] but that if Capt. Wilson had [illegible] he Expected to pay it. Jno. Link further Says

that he Never Imploy'd any Other person, or gave any Money Or Other thing to Endeavour to get him Clear from going in the Service, and that Capt. J. Wilsson nor Jno. Gage Never Encouraged about giting him a Dischg, untill he Came with his Horses and Slay to Peter Knickbacker House—and that he askt him, said Wilson, whether he was like to Procure a Discharge for him—and that Wilson told him he must go to Pulvers and he would try what he Could Do.

John Gage Sworn Saith, That he went from the House of Peter Knickerbackers to Propers, and from there he Rid with Mr. Jno. Link, and that Mr. Link askt him to Interceed with Mr. Morehouse, Conductor of the Slays, for a Discharge, but that he made Link no answer, and when they Got to Pulvers he heard Link & Capt. Wilson talking about geting his Horses &c. Clear—and that Link again askt him to try to get him Clear; he Likewise Overheard Link promis Capt. Wilson, Ten pounds, if he made the Matter Clear; and that he heard Capt. Wilson tell Link he was Clear, & that on that Mr. Link said, why then I must pay you the Ten pounds—which on hearing, he Spoke in Jest, why I ought to have half ont, but on Going Down the Road, they all Stopt at one Minclair Tavern, and while we was there Mr. Link Spoke to Capt. Wilson and said, that he had but about Five pounds with him; why, sayd Capt. Wilson, then pay that to Gage—which was the first time I Realy Knew that I was to have any Share of the Money, Meaning the Ten pounds before Mentioned—and that hee Heard Wilson & Link in Conversation about the Other five Pounds. Wilson said that they were Neighbours, and he was not Concerned about it, & Mr. Link Said, that he never Should have the trouble to ask him for it, for he would pay him as Soon as hee Got home, and that he heard Capt.

Wilson Say. that this Matter Ought to be Kept Close and no words made of it so that it gets noised abroad.

Resolv'd That the Chairman of this Committee and Mr. James Heady or Either of them be appointed to wait on his Exelency the Governor with the forgoing Proceeding.

by Order of Commitee.

Casper Rouse Chairman.

[No. 1157.]

Construction of Gun Boats Left to General Schuyler's Judgment.

Albany, 27th February 1778.

Dear Governor, Receiv'd Yours of 23rd Instent & agreeable to Your Requast will do my Endeavour to Git the Cannon Down from Ticonderoga & Mount Independent. I have for that Purpose Sent Last munday Morning, Sixty Five Span of Horses & Seighs, & will Send Tomorrow morning Thirty Five More, from this Town which will be a Suffetient Number, I think, to Bring down Said Canon that is leaft for I have Fourteen Pieces of Canon here already.

The Boards at the Differ't Saw mills, I Expect to have in this Town at the Letter end of Next week if the Snow will permit.

General Persons mentions in his order to me, to have Flatt Bottem Boats Built with one Pice of Canon at the Bow. I sh'd be Glead to have Your Exellency's Derections about the Size & Shape of Said Boats.

I have Sent to New Borrough 140 axes 100 Spades and Shovels & 100 Pickaxes for the West Point. I am in haste Dear Governor Your most Humble Sarv't

Cornelius D. Wynkoop.

P. S. Please to let General Persons know the Contents of this letter.

[To Governor George Clinton.]

Poughkeepsie 9 March 1778.

Sir, I rec'd your favour of the 27 Febry. Ult. and I am happy to find that you are getting the Cannon down from Ticonderoga &c. to Albany & the boards from the Different mills; as to the Size and Shape of the Flatt bottom gun boats proposed by Genl. Parsons to be built, I wish you to advise with Genl. Schuyler, and have them built according to his Idea of what will be best. I am Sir &c.

Geo. Clinton.

Colo. Cornel's Wynkoop.

[No. 1158.]

FILLING VACANCIES IN TEN BROECK'S BRIGADE.

The General Suspicious of Hessians Who Have Enlisted in the American Army.

Albany 26th Febry. 1778.

Sir, I did my self the honour to write your Excellency the 19th Instant, & Inclosed you a Return of my Brigade since which I have Rec'd the Inclosed Return of Collo. McCrea's Regt. Collo. Whiting I understand attends the assembly. I have not had Return of his Regt. nor of Collo. Van Woerts since August 1776, the Total of Collo. Whiting's Regt. then was 453. Coll. Van Woerts was 225 men.

By the appendix to the militia Law* Passed in August 1775,

*APPENDIX to the rules and orders for regulating the militia of the Colony of New-York,

1st. As the desire of promotion in the public service is extremely laudable, and therefore should be so far incouraged as may be consistent with the safety of the public, and at the same time may not be construed into a design of countenancing promotions, of course it is earnestly recommended to every company, to have a regard in elections, to promote to offices according to rank, so far as may be consistent with true merit and ability to serve the public.

2nd. That where ever a sufficient number of minute men do not voluntarily turn out of any regiment of the militia of this Colony, to complete the proportion in the aforesaid rules and orders required, the deficiency be made up by lot from those companies in which such deficiency shall happen.

3rd. That the militia of the counties of Dutchess and Westchester, be two separate brigades.

the Rank of the officers is fixed giving Preference to Counties; the like method has been observed in this County by giving Preferences to Districts; many Gentlemen who bore Com's under the former Government & Friends to the Glorious American Cause, hold Com's under the Present, & by this arrangement are Injured; as I understand that new Com's are to be given and I beg leave to suggest to your Excellency, that great Uneasi-

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4th. That when any person shall think himself aggrieved with respect to his being fined in consequence of the above mentioned regulations, the committee of the city, town, manor, precinct or district, where the cause of complaint ariseth, upon complaint made to them, shall have power to hear and determine the matter, and if said complaint shall appear to be groundless and vexatious, the complainant shall forfeit a sum equal to the fine in dispute, to be levied upon his goods and chattels by warrant from the chairman, directed to a serjeant of the company. The said forfeiture to be applied in the same manner as the fines in the before said regulations are applied; and that no man shall be fined for want of powder and ball, who shall produce a receipt from his captain of his having deposited in his hands six shillings and nine pence for the purchase of those articles.

5th. That besides the stated meetings of the companies of the militia, it be recommended to the commissioned and non-commissioned officers, to use all possible diligence to perfect their companies in the military art, by inviting them together in small parties as often as they conveniently can meet.

6th. That although persons above 50 years of age are not required to be enrolled in the militia, yet it is most earnestly recommended to them that they be respectively provided with arms, accoutrements and ammunition, as though they were required to be enrolled.

7th. That it be earnestly recommended to every man in the militia to provide himself with a bayonet properly fitted to his musket or firelock.

8th. That no new troops of horse be formed unless an augmentation be recommended by Congress or the Committee of Safety.

9th. That all persons incurring the penalties for non-attendance and disobedience of orders specified in the twelfth clause, shall for every default incur the forfeitures therein annexed to the first default, notwithstanding their being held up as enemies of their country.

10th. That the minute men meet in their respective companies on the first and third Mondays in every month, and pass through the necessary military exercise under their proper officers, and that for the second meeting in every month the officers and privates be respectively allowed the pay of the Continental troops agreeable to the new establishment; provided that the commanding officer of each minute company who shall be present at the muster and exercise of each respective minute company, do deliver to the committee of the city, town, precinct or district in which they shall so meet to exercise, a muster roll of the commissioned and non-commissioned officers and privates of their respective companies, who did actually appear and exercise until they were dismissed by the commanding officer, sworn to by the officer who was present and commanded for the day; and that besides these regulations it be recommended to them to meet in such subdivisions of each company under a proper officer, as will be most convenient for their frequent meeting.

11th. That if any officer should omit to meet and exercise his men upon the days appointed, or shall through favour or affection neglect to levy any fines in the said rules and orders for regulating the militia required to be levied, he shall forfeit for every such neglect the sum of 40s. to be levied and applied as is directed in the twelfth clause of the before referred to regulations.

12th. *Resolved*, That the officers of the minute companies that are already chosen, do continue their offices till the further orders of this or some future Congress.—Journal of Provincial Congress.

ness is Subsisting in my Brigade on this account, which unless Provided for, will Undoubtedly be the means of Severall of my best Officers Declining.

There is a great number of Hessian Deserters in this County, & I am Exceedingly Concerned to find that a Considerable number of them by large Bounties have been Tempted & are Returned in the Present Draft made out of my Brigade; for my part I think they are men that Cannot be Depended on; if your Excellency is of this opinion, I Could wish, Sir, you will give some Direction to Prevent the like Practice for the future. With the Greatest Esteem I Remain

Your Excellency's Most Obdt. & Hum'le Serv't

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

His Excell'cy Governor Clinton.

Poughkeepsie 9th March 1778.

Sir, I am favoured with your Letter of the 26th Ultimo inclosing the Return of Colo. McCrea's Regiment. I observe that you have not either with this Return, or those transmitted me with your Letter of the 19th, pointed the Persons most proper in your Opinion to fill the Vacancies in your Brigade, & tho you mention it as your Oppinion that many of the Officers returned, ought to be struck out for disafection, yet such Persons are not particularly mentioned. With the Assistance of the Field Officers of your Brigade, you will certainly be better able than the Council of Appointment can be supposed to be, to point out in the Lists of the different Regiments, such Officers as are disqualified to serve their Country from disafection, or other Cause, & from the particular Knowledge that you & they must have of the Military Characters of the People composing the

different Regiments. It cannot be a difficult task to say upon the whole, who are best quallified for Officers. This is all I want. The Council mean it only by way of Information, to enable them to discharge their Duty, and as I have Reason to believe that the Council will not continue to sit long at this Time, I must begg that you will without Delay comply with this Request, otherwise I fear we shall not be able to officer your Brigade at the present Meeting. It may be Inconvenient for all your field officers to meet together, but such of them as are near you, may be expeditiously done, and forwarded in season; due care will be taken to remove the uneasiness in your Brigade occasioned by the undue arrangement of the officers. Justice will be done such of them as far as will be in the power of the Council of Appointm't. It is exceedingly wrong to receive Hessian Deserters in the room of militia to be raised and I expect you will not Suffer it. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Ab'm Ten Broeck.]

P. S. we shall be able to fix Colo. Whiting's & Colo. Renselaer's Regiments as those Gentlemen are on the Spot.

[No. 1159.]

Supplies for Gansevoort's Regiment.

Sir, Please to deliver to Colo. Gansevoort or his order for the use of his Regt., 600 Shirts, and the one fourth part of all the Blanckets, Shoes, Hatts, Stockings, Breeches, Coats and waistcoats which you have in the State Store taking a proper receipt for the same.

dated at Poughkeepsie the 9 March 1778.

Geo. Clinton.

To Mr. John Henry, Comm'y of Cloathing for the State of New York.

[No. 6408.]*

General Parsons Asks for More Troops.

Robinson's 10th March 1778.

Dear Sir, Your last is fully satisfactory; I shall avail myself of your Licence to procure a warrant for much of my Conduct.

We shall begin to break Ground in Two Days, when we shall be able to employ 500 men more than we now have to great advantage; In Ten Days or a fortnight we can employ 500 more. I must beg your Excellency's attention to this Subject and that you will be pleas'd to order these additional Troops as soon as possible.

Genl. Schuyler writes me he thinks 300 or 400 men may be Spard from Albany, I wish your Excellency to request the Marquis to order them down, and that Col. Putnam's Regt. may be of the number; he will be very useful being much acquainted with the Duty of an Engineer; but I beg you not to Suffer the Congress's own Regt. of infernals to make Part of the Number.

Sylvanus Hait who lives near this House has gone to ye Enemy, and left his Family, One Swim and Sundry other Tories in this Vicinity ought also to be remov'd to make Room for the Troops as well as for our own Safety: I wish y'r Excellency to give the Necessary Orders for their immediate Removal; as they are all upon Robinson's Estate I suppose the Committee of Sequestration will remove them if y'r Excellency directs. I am with Esteem y'r Obed't h'l Serv't

Saml. H. Parsons.

Gov'r Clinton.

*From Volume XXIV Clinton MSS.

[No. 1160.]

Formal Notice That New York Has Ratified the Articles of Confederation.

Poughkeepsie 10th March 1778.

Gentlemen, You will receive with this from the Bearer, Mr. David Barclay, an Exemplification of the Act of the Legislature of the State for ratifying the proposed Articles of Confederation & perpetual Union between the United States of America. I have the Pleasure to inform you that this Important Act, passed both Branches of the Legislature unanimously, early in their present Meeting, and you woud have received the Exemplification long ere now, Had Mr. Livingston to whom it was delivered set out for Congress at the Time he gave me reason to expect. I Have the Honor to be with due Respect Gentle'n Your Most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

[To New York Delegates in Congress.]

[No. 1161.]

THE SECESSION OF VERMONT.

Hallifax, Cumberland County, Declares Its Allegiance to New York.

We the Subscribers Inhabitants in the Town of Hallifax, in the County of Cumberland, and State of New York, having viewed His Excellency Governor Clinton's Proclamation, Dated the 2d Day of February Last, Respecting Difficulties and Disputes Subsisting in Part of the County of Albany, and the Counties of Charlotte, Cumberland and Gloucester, and having Duly perused the said Proclamation and the Matters therein Contained, Do Return our hearty Thanks to his Excellency, to the Honourable Senate and Assembly, for the Salutary Meas-

ures taken for Settleing the Peace and Unity of these Northern Counties, and notwithstanding the uneasiness of many Disaffected Persons; we do freely Comply with the Terms of said Proclamation and Rejoice to find Such Pacific Sentiments therein Contained, Not in the Least Doubting but, on Suitable application we may have Redress of all Greivencies.

Dated in Hallifax March ye 10th A. Dom. 1778.

Alexander Stewart,
Peter Pattison,
Robert Gillis,
Thomas Clapp, jun'r,
Jonathan Safford,
Daniel Safford,
Benoni Cutbeth,
James Clark Jun,
William Gault,
Elijah Edwards,
George Lyons,
Elijah Edwards June,
Joseph Bell,
Joseph Lyons,
Dan Rude,
Asa Clark,
Elisha Clark,
Josiah Clark,
James Henderson,
Isaac Orr,
Elijah Clark,
Matthew Gettie,
Joseph Gillis,
Thomas Gillis,
Samuel Clark,
Pelatiah Fitch,
Henry Henderson,
Pelatiah Fitch, Ju'r.,
Elisha Fitch,
John Avery,
Samuel Stanton,
Robert Patison,
Moses Kimball,
William Potter,
Benj. Henry,
John Pennel,
James Clark,
Saml. Clark, Ju'r.,
Joseph Stewart, Ju'r.,
John Cary,
Thomas Baker,
Nathan Freeman,
James Cary,
David Henderson,
Samuel Baker,
Nathan Williams,

[No. 1162.]

The Governor Returns Colonel Sutherland's List to Be Perfected.

Poughkeepsie 10 March 1778.

Sir, I am directed by his Excellency, the Governor, to Inform you that the list of the officers of your Regt. returned by you a few days since is entirely incompetent for the purpose wanted, as the Council of Appointm't cannot discover from it the old officers from those Intended to be newly appointed; His Excellency, therefore, orders that you Immediately return a list of the old officers and of those Intended by you and the other field officers to fill up Vacancies, if any you have in the Regt. and if any of your old officers are to be displaced, you must in your return, assign your reasons for it, and point out particularly, the persons names who are to supply their places so that the Council may be fully enabled to make proper and Just appointments.

I am Sir By His Excellency's Command Your Obed't Serv't

Rich'd Hatf'd, Sec'y.

Colo. Sutherland.

THE NEED FOR MORE TROOPS.

The Governor Calls the Legislature's Attention to This and Other Important Subjects.

*Gentlemen, Pursuant to a Resolve of Congress, of the 18th of February last, authorizing and requesting me to superintend the Business of obstructing, fortifying and securing the Passes of the North or Hudson's River, agreeable to their Resolution of the 5th of November, and to employ the Militia of this State, and to call upon the States of Massachusetts-Bay, and Connecticut, for [illegible]ts of their Militia as may be thought necessary, and

*From Journals of the Legislature.

those States can spare, for executing that important Business; a Copy of which Resolutions you will receive with this Message.

I am to request, that you will provide for the raising and caling into Service, seven hundred of the Militia of this State, for those important Purposes, to continue in Service to the first of January next. In Consequence of the Resolutions referred to, I have also requested of the States of Massachusetts and Connecticut two thousand three hundred of the Militia of those States, for the same Service, making in the Whole three thousand Men, which, with such Continental Troops as may be spared, I have judged only barely sufficient for this Service. The States at large, and this State in particular, is so immediately interested in the speedy Execution of this Business, that, I trust, any Arguments to excite the Legislature to a speedy Compliance with this Request, would be unnecessary.

I have only to observe, that I am induced thus far to exercise the Powers vested in me by Congress, to avoid the Delay, which declining it, would necessarily occasion, as the Legislature will readily see, that while they continue sitting, it would be altogether out of my Power to pay that Attention, (which I would wish to give) to the Works, for the Security of the Passes of the River, and which their Importance demands, and the Safety of this State absolutely requires.

You will also herewith receive a Copy of the Resolution of Congress, of the 9th February last, recommending it to the Legislatures of the several States to enact Laws for the most speedy and effectual Recovery of Debts due to the United States of America.

Geo. Clinton.

Poughkeepsie, March 10, 1778.

[No. 1163.]

Loyalist Cuyler Notifies Isaac Man of the Probable Exchange of His Son.

N. York 11th March 1778.

Sir, Yours of the 3d Inst. was deliver'd me by Lieut. Howorth, and Agreeable to your request, I Sollicited the Exchange of your Son Thomas (whoms Situation is deplorable) and I have the pleasure to inform you, of having so far succeeded, as to obtain leave for a Rebel Lieut. Davison, to return home on Parole on Condition, that your Son Thom's is Suffer'd to come to this place on the Same terms; of which I flatter myself he'll not be deny'd; I Assure you it Affords me Singular pleasure to render Service to any good Subject, and more perticular to elivate the distresses of those, that Suffer for their upright Attachment to their King & Country; please to remember my friendship to all good Subjects that may enquire After me; I remain Sir

Your very Hum'e Servant

A. C. Cuyler.

To Mr. Isaac Man.

N. York 10th March 1778. This day was deliver'd in my Custody by Mr. Andries Huyck, five half Joes from Mr. Henry Van Schaack, also a N. York five Pound Bill from Do., and Eighteen Pounds N. York Paper Money, from Mr. Cor's Van Schaack, which Sums will hereafter be deliver'd to the Order of the said Huyck or above mention'd persons; safe danger of fire & otherwise.

A. C. Cuyler.

[No. 1164.]

Excessive Price for Transporting Iron.

The Village 11th March 1778.

Sir, The Letters for his Excellency, General Washington, as well as those for the Eastward, were forwarded immediately, by Express. It seems to be the Generals opinion, as well as Col. Malcom's, that the Chain ought not to be mov'd till the works are in some Measure defenceible. I shall therefore decline their Removal, till I have the Honour of wait'g on your Excellency again.

I intend availing myself of the Teams that carry the Salt Provision to Morristown, and have them loaded back with Shot &c. from Ogden's and Hoff's Works.

Mr. Faish tells me that he has given 50 £ P Ton for the Transportation of Iron to the River, which is a most astonishing Price.

It is said, Col. Nixon's Regt. has reliev'd Col. Meigs, below.

I am, with the utmost Respect, Your Excellency's most Obdt. and very Humble Serv't

Hugh Hughes.

His Excellency, Governor Clinton.

[No. 1165.]

Congress Assumes a Certain Financial Responsibility.

In Congress; 11th March 1778.

Resolved, That whatever expence may be incurred by the executive authority of any State in executing the resolution of Congress of the 9" of Feb. last, authorizing the executive powers of every State to suspend for misbehaviour, or remove as super-

numerary, any officers of the staff, or other civil officers, shall be duly paid upon the accounts being laid before the board of treasury.

Extract from the minutes;

Chas. Thomson sec'y.

[No. 1166.]

Governor Clinton Calls Commissary Gray to Account.

Poughkeepsie 11th March 1778.

Sir, I am informed by Capt. Benson that you object against delivering to the Ship Carpenters employed under his Direction, their back Rations of Provissions & Rum. You must be sensible it woud be very Inconvenient for these People to draw their Daily allowance at Fishkill; it woud be equally so to keep a Dep'y Commissary here to supply them. It is, therefore, for the good of the Service that they be supplied in the manner agreed to with them by Capt. Benson at the End of every Month & I expect you will comply with that Method allowing them whatever is now due to them. I am &c.

Geo. Clinton.

Commissary Gray.

[No. 1167.]

Joshua Wells Vindicated.

Poughkeepsie 11 March 1778.

D'r Sir, Genl. Putnam called upon me some time before you arrived to that post, to be informed of the Character of one Joshua Wells whose Effects were Seized in Suffolk County on Long Island and brought off, by a party under your Command and detained untill his true Character could be known. I was not acquainted with the man myself and, therefore, I desired some

Gentlemen of the Legislature who lately resided on Long Island, to obtain the Necessary Information respecting Wells in Consequence of which the enclosed Certificate* directed to Genl. Putnam & signed by a Number of respectable freeholders of that County, has been handed to me, which holds up Mr. Wells in so fair a point of View, that I think there remains no doubt but that his Effects ought to be delivered up to him, and that it will be done. I am Sir your Most Obed't Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

Genl. Parsons.

[No. 1168.]

Governor Clinton Spurs Up Philip Livingston.

Poughkeepsie, 11th March 1778.

Dear Sir, The Legislature being informed by some Persons, who come from your Neighborhood on Monday last, that you had not before that Time set out for Congress, appear to be very uneasy, least by means of your Non Attendance this State at this Important Juncture will be without a Representation in Congress; what adds to their Concern is your being possessed of the Exemplification of their Act for ratifying the Articles of Confederation which ought to have been at Congress on the 10th Instant. They have, therefore, requested me to write to you on this Subject, and to desire that in Case you are so circumstanced as not to be able to commence your Journey for York Town immediately, that you will deliver the Exemplification referred to. To the Bearer Mr. David Barclay, who is imployed to proceed Express to Congress & deliver it to some or one of our other Delegates there. The Legislature however wish that this Step

*Certificate not found.

may not be the means of Delaying your Journey, as they most anxiously desire your attendance at Congress. I am your most Obed't Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

You will please to take Mr. Barclay's Rec't for the Exemplification if you shoud not be the Bearer yourself.

The Honorable Philip Livingston Esq.

[No. 1169.]

Returns of Colonel Graham's Regiment.

A return of Lieut. Colonel Morris Graham's Regiment of Militia in Dutchess County, March 12th, 1778.

	Feild			Commissioned				Staff			Non-Com-miss'd				Total
	Colonel	Lt. Colo.	Major	Capt'ns	1 Leiuts	2d Leiuts	Ensigns	Adjut.	Qr. Mr.	Surgeon	Serjt. Major	Qr. Mr Serjt.	Serjts	Drums & Fifes	Rank & File
William Radcliff Capt.	—	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	3	2	52
David Van Ness do				1	1	1	1						4	1	64
Jacabus Kipp do				1	—	1	1						2	1	44
James Wilson do				1	1	1	1						4	—	50
Peter Westfall do				1	1	1	1						4	1	50
John Ronse do				1	1	1	1						4	—	74
John Klum do				1	1	1	1						3	1	37
Abraham Hartwell Leiut.					1	1							3	—	55
Silas Hustad do							1						4	1	69
	—	1			7	9	8	1	—	—	—	—	32	7	495

Morris Graham Leut. Coll.

[No. 1170.]

Jelles Fonda Displays a Bit of Patriotism.

Caughnawaga, 12th March 1778.

Hon'ble Sir, Agreeable to my Promise to you, I Immedately on my arrival at home, went to Colo. Klocks (being twenty one miles from my House, with my own Sleigh and Horses) he being

the oldest Colo. of the Militia in this County, and requested of him, and also of Colo. Fisher to send you down an Exact Return of the Strenth of the Militia of this County, which they Promised to do, but as yet have Negleted it, altho I have often Reminded them of it; they say it will soon be Ready, and shall be sent to you as soon as possible.

I am Sir Your most Humble Serv't

Jelles Fonda.

To his Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 1171.]

COLONEL WYNKOOP'S WORK COMMENDED.

Delinquency in Pushing Work Forward for the Gunboat Defences of the Hudson.

Robinson's, 11th March 1778.

D'r Sir, This moment I rec'd a Letter from Col. Wyncoop of ye 4th Inst. He informs me 12 Cannon are at Albany from Ti; the Sleighs gone for ye Remainder & expected the middle of ye following week; and had good Prospects of compleating the Carriages by ye Time ye River opens. That all ye Boards would be at ye Landings by ye End of the next week; axes, Spades &c. he had Sent to New Windsor: in Short his Business has been exceeding well attended to and afords agreable Prospects. He informs me no Dimentions have been given nor orders for building Gun Boats or floating Batteries. I wish you, Sir, to send him Directios & direct the Shape & Size of the Boats & Batteries, the number & weight of Cannon in Each. I beleive a floating Battery, mounting about Six Peices from 12 to 24 pounds, will be a better Defence to this Post than any Land Battery, and had better be constructed at Albany before the Gun Boats are began there.

Part of ye Provisions pass ye Ferry this morning, but is Short of the Commissary's Report; of 100 to have been rec'd of Cpt. Hiat at Crumpond 61 barrels are deliverd. I have heard nothing, from Bedford since I left that Place. Mr. Campbell whom I left to forward the Provisions having made no Report.

If you think the Service will be promoted by it, I wish to receive a Line, by which I shall be authoris'd to make Such Contracts & use so much Discretion as is necessary to forward these works until you can attend in person, as much Trouble will be sav'd you which may otherwise arise from frequent applications.

I am with Esteem & Regard Y'r Excellency's Obed't h'e Serv't

Saml. H. Parsons.

His Excellency Governor Clinton. Poughkeepsie.

D'r Sir, Your Letters of yesterday & this Day are received. I will endeavour to have the Torrie Famillies you mention, removed to make Room for the Troops and prevent the Misschief they might do living in the Vicinity of the Works. I received a Letter from Colo. Wynkoop simular with his to you, & thereupon wrote him to advise with Genl. Schuyler as to the Size & Construction of the Gun Boats to be built at Albany & follow his Directions. I have wrote to Congress for Part of the Troops from the Northward. I wish I had known Colo. Putnam's Regt. was there before. I will however endeavour to procure it as the Colo. can be usefull man with us. I have requested of your State, Massachusetts & this, 3000 Militia, but it must necessarily be long, ere they can be on the Spot. I begg, that you will do every thing which you conceive, will tend to forward the Works, & rest

assured, whatever you may so do, will be confirmed as far in the Power of your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Parsons.]

To save Time I will write to the Marquis* for Men as it may be long before I can have an answer from Congress on that Subject.

[No. 1172.]

GOVERNOR CLINTON DISPLAYS GOOD JUDGMENT.

Declines to Go to Extremes—Difficulties in the Way of the Defences of the Hudson.

Kings Ferry 11th March 1778.

Dear General, Just as I set off from Fishkill, Peter Hughes returned from the Slitting Mill and brought word that no Nail Rods could be had till some time in April, in which case the works will be retarded greatly, if not totally stopp'd. On my arrival here I find as near as I can compute (some being thrown into the water) about 100 bundles, which I have ordered to be seized and sent up the River, for public use, and beg that one, if not both of the [boa]ts may be dispatched for them & the remainder of the Grain; there is about 1000 Bushels here yet & the Enemy hourly expected. Capt. Tyson is sent with this, in order that there may be no delay; he is orderd also to apply for an Extra order for the taking the nail Rods, which I hope you will approve.

Major Kierse tells me that the Enemy to the amount of about 400, were near Tarry Town yesterday & skirmish'd with the Militia, but knows not the event.

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*Lafayette.

I should be happy if you would please to communicate this, to the Gov. as well as what I have done relative to the Nail Rods. I am &c. &c.

H. Hughes.

P. S. I have orderd an exact account to be taken of the Rods, that the owner may receive the value. It is pretty clear that they are the property of Mr. Ogden who refuses to supply us.

H. H.

Copy.

D'r S'r, The forgoing is a Copy of Col. Hughes's Letter. The Nail Rods will be wanted very soon. I wish your Excellency to give proper Directions therein. I have heard nothing of the affair at Tarry Town but what's contained in Col. Hughes's Letter.

Y'r h'e Serv.

Saml. H. Parsons.

12th March 12 o'Clock.

His Excellency Governor Clinton, Poughkeepsie.

D'r Sir, You will readily see the Impropriety of my giving an Order as Gov'r, to seize the Nail Rods, alluded to in your Letter of this Date; nor do I think such an order necessary; the absolute necessity which Colo. Hughes says there is of Nails to carry on the Works for the Defence of the River, his not being able to procure a supply at the Usual Place, or elsewhere, & the concealed Manner he found the Present Bundles, in my Oppinion will Justify, the Converting them to public Use, especially on this present Occasion, taking a proper acct of them, & paying the owner when discovered, the full Value. I have this Day

wrote to the Marquis for two Regiments of which Colo. Putnam's is one. I fear I shant be able to leave Home for some Days; the Moment I can, I will wait on you at West Point, but if Convenient shall be glad to see you here before. Yours &c.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Parsons.]

[No. 1173.]

Facts Relative to the Governor's Farm.

New Windsor 12th March 1778.

Dear Sir, The bearer, Hugh Watterson, with John Cunningham of my comp'y, I have furnished with spades, axxes &c. and set them to worke on your Farme at Blooming Hope. But we Shall want Ploughs, gearing & c.; Hugh Watterson informs me that Mr. Mat. Deboise took yours to his House: if so, I shall be Glad of an order to get them, if you think it best; if they are lost or Destroyed, I Shall take some method to furnish them; but I want to know in Time. I have one good Draft mare which I will put on the Farme all this Spring and Summer. Should be glad to know, if you Can furnish another or weather I shall purches one. If you have any of the wite sort of Corn, please to let me know, or any other Seed that you shall think advisable to sow.

Miss Clinton was well last Evening. From Dear Sir your Humbl Ser't

Thos. Machin.

His Excellence George Clinton.

please Excuse all fault I am Just going to West Point.

[No. 6410.]*

THE QUESTION OF EXCHANGES.

Hamilton Disposed to Criticise the Methods of Lord Howe.

Head Quarters March 12th 1778.

Sir, Capt. Coleman delivered me your two letters of the 5th & 6th, instant.

The pleasure, I have, in corresponding with you, will dispose me, whenever I have any thing to communicate, that may be worth your attention, or that appears to me so—to trouble you with my sentiments: But I shall not expect you to make an equal return either in quantity or frequency. You will, in this, intirely consult your own convenience.

I had previously flattered myself, that your ideas and mine would correspond, in a certain matter, and I am glad to find I was not mistaken. I doubt not the defects of a certain synod, will appear to you not the subject of speculation only; but as disorders in the state, that require a remedy, and will, as far, as your influence, reaches, contribute to it. Shall I speak what seems to me a most melancholy truth? It is this—that with the most adequate means to ensure success in our contest, the weakness of our councils will, in all probability, ruin us. Arrangements on which, the existence of the army depends, and almost the possibility of another campaign, are delayed in a most astonishing manner; and I doubt whether they will be adopted at all.

A late resolve directs G. W. to fix the number of men under which G. H. shall not send any parties out of his lines, on pain of

persons who aid the enemy in carrying off the peaceable inhabitants has a retrospective view to those, who have assisted, as well as a perspective one to those who shall assist in such practices. Thus we have gotten into the spirit of making *ex post facto laws*, or rather violating all law. Another resolve, by plain implication, acknowledges a thing not founded in fact, which is very injurious to us—to wit, that we have inlisted prisoners of war. This silences all our complaints against the enemy for a similar practice, and furnishes them with a damning answer to any thing we can say on the subject. This is at least an instance of folly and inconsideration, and serves to prove the general charge.

These men seem also to have embraced a system of infidelity. They have violated the convention of Saratoga; and I have reason to believe the ostensible motives for it were little better than pretences, that had no foundation. I have lately seen some letters from Burgoigne on the subject. There was however a strong temptation for this, and it may be excused, though I cannot say the measure is to my taste. Lately, a flag, with provisions and cloathing for the British prisoners, with G. W's passport was seized at Lancaster. The affair was attended with circumstances of violence, and meaness that would disgrace hottentots. Still more lately—G. W. engagements with G. H., for an exchange of prisoners, has been most shamefully violated. C—s have resolved that no exchange shall take place 'till all accounts are settled and the ballance due the U: S: paid. The beauty of it is—on a fair settlement we shall without doubt be in Mr. Howe's debt; and in the meantime we detain his officers and soldiers, as a security for the payment. The operation of this resolve, though it does not plainly appear upon the face of it, is to put off an exchange—perhaps forever. At any rate it cannot take place all next summer.

It is thought to be bad policy to go into an exchange; but admitting this to be true it is much worse policy to commit such frequent breaches of faith, and ruin our national character. Whatever refined politicians may think—it is of great consequence to preserve a national character; and if it should once seem to be a system in any state to violate its faith whenever it is the least inconvenient to keep it, it will unquestionably have an ill-effect upon foreign negociations and tend to bring Government at home into contempt, and of course to destroy its influence. The general notions of justice and humanity are implanted in almost every human breast; and ought not to be too freely shocked. In the present case—the passions of the country and army are on the side of an exchange; and a studied attempt to avoid it will disgust both, and serve to make the service odious. It will injure drafting and recruiting, discourage the militia & increase the discontents of the army. The prospect of hopeless captivity cannot but be very disagreeable to men constantly exposed to the chance of it. Those, whose lot it is to to fall into it, will have little scruple to get rid of it by joining the enemy.

It is said, not to be our present interest to exchange, because we should endeavour, by and by, to take advantage of the enemy's weakness to strike some decisive blow. If we should fail in this, which I believe we shall—when they get reinforced we shall not think it our interest to add to the strength of an enemy, already strong enough and so on ad infinitum.

The truth is, considered in the mere view of barter, it never can be our interest to exchange; the constitution of our army, from the short term of inlistment the dependence we are obliged to place in the militia, are strongly opposed to it; and if the argument of present interest be adhered to, we never can exchange.

I may venture to assert, there never can be a time more proper than the present, or rather a month or two hence; and go about it as soon as we please the previous negociations necessary and other circumstances, will, of course, procrastinate it for some time. And I would ask, whether in a republican state and a republican army; such a cruel policy as that of exposing those men who are foremost in defence of their country to the miseries of hopeless captivity—can succeed?

For my own part I have so much of the milk of humanity in me, that I abhor such *Neronian* maxims; and I look upon the old proverb, that *honesty is the best policy* to be so generally true, that I can never expect any good from a systematical deviation from it; and I never can adopt the reasonings of some *American* politicians deducible from their practice, that no regard is to be paid to national character—or the rules of good faith.

I dwell upon the faults of Congress because I think they strike at the vitals of our opposition and of our future prosperity—and with this idea I cannot but wish that every Gentleman of influence in the country should think with me.

We have nothing new in camp—save that Capt. Barry, late of a Continental frigate, has destroyed with a few gunboats—two large ships belonging to the enemy, laden with forage from Rhode Island. He also took an armed schooner, which he has since been obliged to run on shore, after a gallant defence. 'Tis said he has saved her cannon & stores—among the ordnance four brass howitzers. Some acco'ts say the enemy are preparing to evacuate Philadelphia. *Sed credat Judaeus Apella, non ego.*

I have the honor to be With unfeigned esteem & respect Sir Your most Obed't

A. Hamilton.

[To G. C.] [private]

[No. 1174.]

An Important Document for John Van Derwerken.

Gentlemen, We would Desier you would Sadisfy John Van Derwerken agreable to the Resolve and Youl Oblige Your Humble Serv't

John E. Van Eps, Chear.

Coghnawago March the 12 1778.

To Zeepheniah Batchelar and Abraham Veader.

[No. 1175.]

Congress Demands the Continuous Presence of Three Delegates From Each State.

In Congress: 12th March 1778.

Resolved, That a letter be addressed by the president to the respective States, informing them, that the multiplicity & importance of the business of Congress during the war, will require the constant attendance of at least three members from each State; that from the want thereof, the health of members has been frequently impaired, & the public business greatly obstructed; & that Congress request their immediate attention to this, as a matter of great moment.

Extract from the minutes:

Chas. Thomson sec'y.

[No. 1176.]

John Tivoli Appeals to the Governor for Funds for the Men Who Worked on the Defences of the Hudson.

New Windsor March ye 12 1778.

Dr Governor

Sir There was one months Pay Due to the artificers at this [illegible], when the works was Stoped Last fall, by the Enemys

Coming up the River, Since which time they have Rec'd No moneys, Except about Three thousand Dollors, that I have advanced to them to Help theire Necessatys, which Is I had Not; many of them must have Left the works and Gone In the Country, amongst the farmors to have helped theire Distresed Familys; many of the Foremen are Now Blaming me, that It is Through my Neglect, that they have Not theire Pay; that money Is Plenty for them at Fishkill; but that I Do Not apply, I have Let Coll. Hughs & Coll. Taylor Repeatedly know oure Situation, and That withoute money, oure works must Stop, which Now Seames To be Going on with Spirits. Do Request you, as you know oure Situation, and that the obstruction of this River of the Greatest Importance, Not only to this Capital State, but the whole Continent, youre Excellency would use youre Interest, to Provide us Some Cash at this Place, which if To be had, & Paid by me To the workmen, as formerly, Shall Take youre Directions, Beg you would Send me a Line by the Bearer, My wife Joines me In Love To youre Self, Mist's Clinton & Family & am D'r S'r Youre Excellency's most Humble Serv't

John Nicoll.

[To G. C.]

[No. 1177.]

Commissary Gray Explains His Position to Governor Clinton.

Fishkill March 13th 1778.

S'r, I received yours of ye 11th Inst. respecting Cap'n Benson & Carpenters under his direction.

Mr. White who has the Care of the Issuing Store Informs me, that Cap'n Benson has been supplied with provision for the

months of Decem'r & Jan'y last, and Informed him of the difi culties of supplying him for the month past, unless it should b applied for, on the last days of the month, for which provision are drawn for, as by resolves of Congress, every Issuing Commi: sary is ordered to Close his Books at the end of every month ‹ make return of what received, Issued & remaining in store &c: —and when Cap'n Benson drew provision for the month o Jan'ry, Mr. White then told him it would not be in his power t supply him for the month of Feb'ry, unless he Came within th month, and desired him to do it to prevent difficulty. Cap. Ben son made answer, he should draw provision when he thought best, and did not Care for the Resolves of Congress. On the 10th Inst., Mr. Vanzandt bro't Cap'n Benson's order for provision for the Month of Feb'ry. Mr. White Inform'd him it was not in his power to deliver the provision, unless he should procure Genl. Parsons particular order for the same, dated in the month of March, and desired him to procure it. Mr. Vanzandt replyed he would not; he had other business to do.

If Cap. Benson will apply or had. with his orders at the end of each month for which provision is wanted, there would not have been, nor hereafter will there be any difficulty in the delivering of which he was Informed in season, and tis his fault & not the Issuing Commissarys, that he has not had the provision, as the resolves of Congress are such that the Issuing Commissarys Cannot Supply Cap'n Benson with provision for past allowances at any Time when he shall be in Humour Call for it.

There was no Rum in store when Cap'n Benson had his provision for the Months of Decem'r & Jan'ry. On the 6th Inst. I received an Order from Genl. Parsons not to Issue any Rum for past allowances without special Order from the Command'g

Officer of this department, a Copy of which order I sent Mr. White, which was the occasion of his refusal.

Rum as well as provision will be deliv'd to Cap. Benson at any Time within the month without the least difficulty. Am s'r Your most Obt. Hum'e ser.

Saml. Gray D'y Com'y Genl. of Issues.

Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 1178.]

Governor Clinton Suggests to Lafayette to Utilize Two Additional Regiments in Completing the Defences of the Hudson.

Poughkeepsie 13th March 1778.

Sir, The Want of a proper Body of Troops in this Quarter will occassion great Delay in the Works erecting for the Defence & Security of the Passes of the River. The small Number that are in this Department are many of them under Innoculation for the small Pox, & so many of the well necessarilly dispersed as Guards to the Country exposed to the immediate Ravages of the Enemy, that very few indeed are left for the Works. I have requested of the States of Connecticut, Massachussets Bay & this State, three thousand Men, but these cannot possibly be on the Spot before some Time in next Month, till which Time, we shall not without Aid from some other Quarter, have the one third of the Number of Men we coud imploy to advantage at the Works, in the speedy Completion of which America is so much Interested. These Considerations induce me to suggest to you, the necessity of imploying for this Service, Vanschaick's & Colo. Putnam's Regiments now at Albany, or such Part of them as can be spared, & if the same can be done with Propriety & consistent with your Instruc-

tions, I doubt not but you will readilly consent to it & give the necessary orders. I am Sir with great Respect Your Most Obed't Serv.

Geo. Clinton.

P. S. I am perswaded Congress will approve of almost any Measure that is Calculated to forward the Defences of the River.

[To Marquis de Lafayette.]

[No. 1179.]

Inhabitants of the Present Rockland County Ask for Consideration.

In Committee South side of the mountains Orange County.

To his Excelency George Clinton Esqr. Governor and the Honourable the Senators and Representatives in General Assembly Conven'd in and for the State of Newyork.

Gentlemen, We have certain information that in some parts of this County and in Westchester County, that the Wheat and other Grain taken up from the Farmers for the use of the United States is Contract'd for at a higher price than in this part of the County and, thereupon, the Farmers that have Carried and Supplied the public Stores with their wheat &c. are much dissatisfied therewith, the prices affixed here when taken up was as follows: wheat 12/ Rye 10/ Corn 8/ Oats & Buck Wheat 6/ P Bushel and Hay 8£ P Tun.

Therefore, on the application and Earnest request of a number of people that has Supplied the wheat and other Grain, and in order to Quiet their uneasiness, We in the Behalf of the above specified inhabitants of Orangetown and Haverstraw precinct, take the Liberty, Humbly to beg your Excelency, with the Honourable the Legislature, will be pleased to take this matter

into Consideration and to allow them the same price for their produce that their Neighbours are allowed for what they have supplied the Stores with in like manner; and as the Guardians of our Rights and Liberties we doubt not, but equal right will by you be done to one as well as the other. Gentlemen Your most Hum'e Serv't

Resalvert Vanhouten D. Chairman.

March 14 1778.

attest David Pye Clk.

[No. 1180.]

Governor Trumbull's Certificate That Josiah Nichols, Messenger, Had Delivered Him a Letter from George Clinton.

1778 March 14th. Rec'd of Mr. Josiah Nickols messenger—a Letter from His Excellency Geo. Clinton Esqr. Gov'r of the State of New York dated 6th day of March inst.

P Jon'th Trumbull.

[No. 1181.]

The Frontier Threatened—Rumors of an Indian Uprising.

Albany, March 14" 1778.

Hon. Sir, On my return from the Senate I received a letter from Genl. Tenbrock, who Inform'd me of his being ordered by your Excellency to raise a number of men in the Counties of Albany, Tryon & Charlotte, and in persuance, thereof, He had Inclosed the order & requested my attendance at Albany. On my arivial he Inform'd me, that he had wrote you in what manner [he] had proceeded, and requested me to Inform you of our Inability in the premises.

I am Sorry to Inform your Excellency that the Scituation of our people is truly Deplorable, scearce any provision nor forage for the Small Quantaty of Cattle they have left, and are oblidged to Imploy themselves in Cutting Down Trees & Clearing off the Snow, for the Sustainance of their Cattle which are Daily Decreasing.

We are Inform'd that a number of Savages have been Discovered at Oater Creek and about 200 men from Bennington are on their March for that place, In consequence of which some of our people are again moveing of. I long to here in what manner we are to be guareded; whatever assistance may be wanted on the frontiers of my Regiment, I make no doubt but it will be readily Complied with, But to be Drafted to defend Albany I fear it cannot be done, however what orders you may think necessary I shall endeavour to obey.

I have sent to Major Webster a Copy of my last Return to the Convention, and have pointed out the alterations. He will be able to Inform your Excellency what I have done and my opinion on the Subject.

I sent your Proclamation to the Different towns on the Grants as far as they would reach, P Express as I arived home but one day before their Election for Governor came on; I am Inform'd their Capital (Bennington) that only one third, voted the others went home. Disattisfied with their proceedings; other Towns Burnt the Proclamation. Upon the whole, they are now in Confusion. I could wish Some plan was fallen on, in order to receive the names of those who except of the Benefit of the Proclamation. Numbers have been with me on that Subject, & I gave them for answer I would Inform you of it. I could wish if this meets with your approbation that it might be speedily done, as

the Gentlemen who expects to fill up the Officers Commisions are daily Insinuating Evil designs To this State into the minds of the Inhabitants. I remain, Hon. Sir with Sentiments of Esteem Your most obedient & most Humbl. Serv.

Jno. Williams.

To his Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 1182.]

Governor Clinton Orders Colonel Lewis to move the Big Guns on to Poughkeepsie.

Poughkeepsie, 15th March, 1778.

Sir, I am favoured with the Receipt of your Letter of the 7th Instant respecting the Cannon which you are to forward to my Order, and I now inclose you a Copy of a Resolve of Congress on the same Subject. The Eight Iron Field Cannon Mounted I desire may be sent forward immeadiately to this Place where the Conductor will receive my further Orders. The other Cannon mentioned in the Resolve I woud have stocked & mounted in Albany with all possible Expedition, beginning with the largest first, and as soon any Part of them are compleated, put on Board of Sloops ready to be brought down to the Works for the Defence of the River in the Highlands & near New Windsor on the first oppening of the River. Major Stevens of the Artillery, who has the Management of the Artillery in your Department, writes me that he stands in need of some large Sized Iron to enable him to compleat the Mounting of the above Cannon which I expect you will furnish. I am Sir Your Most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Colo. Morgan Lewis D. Q. Genl.

[No. 1183.]

In Relation to Plundered Goods That Had Been Buried and Found.

Caughnawaga, 15th March 1778.

Hon'ble Sir, We the Subscribers, two of the members of the Committee of the Mohawk District in the County Tryon, did in the month of December last past apprehend, and attach'd a Certain Chist of goods, part of which belonged, to one William Wallace, which went over the lines on his Journey to Jojne our Enimy; but before he could reach them was taken, and Imprisoned in Albany, and the Remaining part of said goods belonged to a Certain Jacob Snook, who says he had sworn true allegence to the States, the said Snooks goods we Returned him; and Walace's part thereof, we Delivered to the Commissioners of Sequestration of this County, which they sold at Publick Vandue for the good of this State. agreeable to their Instructions from Congress, Excepting one Shirt the Commissioners give to the said Wallace, he being then in Goal, and in great want thereof.

This Chist of goods was found by John Van Dewarkin and Dennis Davis (as they say Buryed under ground) who brought it in the Night, to the House of one Jacob Gardinears, and there devided said goods, and Claimed them as their own property, and each took his part of the booty away, and kept the same a Secrete; but by accident it was found out by the said Snook, upon which he Entered a Complaint to us the Committee, who granted him a Search Warrant to find the goods out; part of which was found in the House of the aforesaid Davis, and brought by the Constable to House of Charles Van Eps, Chairman of said Committee; after which we, the said Committee, sent for the aforesaid Van Dewarkin, and ordered him to bring the Remaining part of said goods to the said Charmans, which he did, from which we

ook, and Delivered them to the Commissioners. The aforesaid nook Swore, before us the said Committee, that there was fifteen ounds hard Cash in said Chist when it was buryed, but never ould find out what become of it.

This, Sir, is true Representation of this affair as it happened, nd begs your Honour's advice, as soon Possible, how we are to roceed further in the matter; as you will perceive by the Inloased Resolve of the New Committee (alth' Chosen in an unconstitutional manner); and also Confirmed by the Chairman of the County Committee that we must Return the said Goods to the aforesaid Van Dewarkin and Davis, altho they have been sold by the Commissioners three months ago to the Different Inhabitants in these parts—in our opinion, we have done every thing in our power for the good of the state, and to damp the Spirit of our Internal Enimys as fare as our Instrutions and oath Admitted. There are several persons such as the above mentioned, have done a great Deal of damage in these parts by Plundering goods, which ought to have been sold for the benefit of the State; There is also Incloased from the New Chairman of the Committe of this District, an order to us to Render the aforesaid Van Dewarkin Satisfaction; The whole of this Transaction was done by the Voice of the old Committee and hopes the same will prove satisfactory to your Honour. We are your Honour's most Obedient and Very Humble servants

Zephaniah Batcheller.

Abraham Veeder.

To His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 1184.]

Colonel Field Explains That Smallpox Has Prevented His Making An Earlier Regimental Return.

Sir, The inclos'd* is the State of the Regim't, which under your Excellency, I have the Honour to Comm'd; would beg leave to remark, that those persons acting as officers in the several Ranks noted in the Subjoin'd return, are without Commissions, by reason of which I have not been able to settle the Ranks of the Sever'l Companies. Your Excellency's orders respecting the late levy on my Regiment I have endeavoured to execute, but the late spreading of the Small Pox by Inoculation has render'd the accomplishment (at present) impracticable. I have the Honour to be Yo'r Excellency's Most Humble and Obedient Serv't

John Field.

South East Precinct March [15] 1778.

To His Excellency Governor Clinton, Poughkeepsie.

[No. 1185.]

Schuyler Fears an Indian Uprising.

Albany, March 16th 1778.

D'r Sir, On the 13th Instant I was honored with a Letter of the 10th Inst. subscribed by your Excellency; the president of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Assembly. The Commissioners of Indian Affairs were already gone Home when the Letter came to Hand, so that I could not lay it before them. I have however shewn it to the Marquis De La Fayette and have advised that Detachments of Troops should be sent to such places as would best protect the Inhabitants.

What Effect the firm Tone in which the Commissioners have spoke to the Indians will have on them is hard to say. The Re-

* Not found.

ult of a Council that is to convene on the occasion at Onondaga will enable us to determine. We are however inclined to believe that the Indians will commence Hostilities. This Idea I have conveyed to Congress in the Dispatches which the Bearer hereof carries.

Colonel Wynkoop has requested my Assistance in procuring Gun Boats. Be assured that every Aid I can give will most chearfully be granted. It is much to be lamented that preperations for the Boats had not been made in the Course of the winter. I am D'r Sir with great respect Your Excellency's Most Obed. Hu'e Serv.

Ph. Schuyler.

His Excellency George Clinton &c. &c.

[No. 1186.]

The Board of Sequestration of Dutchess County Begins Operations.

To his Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

Governor of the State of New York, General of the Militia, and Admiral of the Navy of the same.

The Memorial of Theodorus Van Wyck and Henry Livingston Jun. Commissioners of Sequestration for the County of Dutchess.

Sheweth, That, whereas, on the 13th day of May 1777, The honorable the Convention of the Representatives of the State of New York came to the following resolution "Resolved that the Commissioners of sequestration be directed & impowered to lease out the lands & Tenements of all such persons as already have gone, or hereafter shall go, unto & Join the Enemies of this State, under Moderate rent, from year to year, to persons freindly to the cause of America & who will Covenant to keep the same in repair & to suffer no waste to be done thereon"—And again "Resolved, that in all such leases the Inhabitants

of this state who have been driven from their Habitations by the Enemy should be preferred by the Commissioners to others who have not that claim to the favor of the public."

Agreable to the above resolutions, your Memorialists have put numbers of well affected Refugees Inhabitants of this State into the possession of lands and tenements deserted by the former disaffected proprietors. As yet your Memorialists have stipulated with but very few of the Refugees aforesaid, what rent they shall pay for the lands & tenements they Occupy. Your Memorialists wish to have pointed out to them, what proportion of the highest rent they could obtain from others, for lands and tenements above described, the said Refugees should pay.

Your Memorialists would also beg leave to represent to your Excellency, that numbers of persons now with our Enemies own large tracts of land in this County; Many of the tenants on which are desirous of discharging their rents, and have in many instances applyed to your Memorialists for direction. By virtue of any Resolutions made by the Legislature your Memorialists do not think themselves authorized to receive the Same.

If the Legislature see fit to direct to have the above rents collected your Memorialists wish the Estates may be particularized.

Your Memorialists would also inform your Excellency that

An Address That Affected Prisoners of War and Their Comfort.

*Gentlemen, You will receive with this Message a Copy of an Act of Congress, of the 26th of February last, for filling the Continental Battalions, and a Copy of a Report from the Board of War, shewing the Number wanted to complete them. These Papers came to my Hands last Night; and, as they respect a Subject long since recommended to the Consideration of the Legislature, I take the earliest Opportunity of laying them before you.

A Copy of another Act of Congress, of the 26th of February, respecting the Exchange of Prisoners, will be also herewith delivered you, by which you will observe, that the Account of Money, Provisions and other Necessaries, which have been supplied to Prisoners taken by the United States, are to be transmitted by the different States as speedily as possible, to the Commissioners of Claims, at the Board of Treasury. You will, therefore, be pleased to take the proper Measures for effecting this Business, as far as it may concern this State.

Geo. Clinton.

Poughkeepsie, March 16, 1778.

[No. 1187.]

Congress Asks the States to Transmit Acts That Have Passed, Based on Congressional Legislation.

In Congress; March 16th 1778.

Whereas Congress have not received information of the measures, which the several States have, from time to time, adopted, in consequence of their recommendations; and, Whereas, such information together with the concurrence of the respective

*From Journals of the Legislature.

legislatures, in vigorously executing the resolutions of Congress, is essentially necessary to enable them to transact the important concerns of the United States:

Resolved, That the governors & presidents of the said States be earnestly requested to transmit to Congress, as soon as possible, attested copies of the acts passed by their respective legislatures, in pursuance of recommendations of Congress, which they may have received, since the first day of November last, & of all acts, which they may hereafter pass, in consequence of future recommendations.

Extract from the minutes.

Belcher P. Smith sec. p. Tem.

[No. 1188.]

Grievances of Workmen at West Point.

Poughkeepsie, 17th March 1778.

Dear Sir, The enclosed Complaints of the artificers & Teamsters imployed at the Cheveaux Defrize & other Public Works near New Windsor were this day delivered me. I have thought it most proper to transmit them to you in Order that as the Complaints are chiefly against a Subordinate Officer in your Department, you may be apprized thereof, and see that the Cause (if any there is) be removed or lay them before Genl. Parsons, who will please to order the Inquiry they sollicit to be made. I hope in a Short Time to be with you & Share of your Troubles. I am your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Colo. Hughes.

Poughkeepsie 17th March 1778.

Gentlemen, I have transmitted your Letter of yesterday containing a Number of Articles of Complaint against the D. Q. Master (with one of a simular Date of like Nature from the Teamsters) to Colo. Hughes with Directions to make the Necessary Inquiries respecting the Grievances you Complain of & have them removed. I have also desired him if necessary to lay your Case before Genl. Parsons the Commanding Officer of the Department. I am your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

To William Frazer & others Artificers in the public Works at New Windsor.

[No. 1189.]

CONTUMACIOUS TEAMSTERS.

Obstructions in the Way of Providing Washington's Army—Clinton Favors Martial Force.

16th March 1778.

D'r Sir, The carting is so exceedingly bad that tis almost impossible to get the Provisions to Morris Town: about 15 or 20 Teams have pas'd the River with four Barrels each: 150 have been remov'd from Bedford, 135 of which have come on to Peekskill, where some of the Teamsters have drop'd their Loads & gone off with their Teams, about 16 Still remain, determind not to cross over without military Compulsion; some have drop'd their Loads on the Road from Bedford & are gone off; about 120 bbl. Still remain at Bedford, in the Hands of Mr. Leek the Commissary; the carting is so very bad & for other Reasons perhaps it may not be best to move it just now: in Short the good Whigs in & near Bedford seem determind to do nothing without a mili-

tary Force to compel their movments every mile. The Tories of Cortland's manor are more Submissive. I wish your Directions whether that come on to Peekskill shall be ordered over immediately or wait a little for better Carting and at what Time to attempt removing the Residue from Bedford.

One Jesse Hawly, of Bedford, flaming Whig, has 47 barrels of Pork an Hand; he has sold some on a Contract for 6£ hard money or 24£ Continental Currancy. I am informd Commissary Leek has applied to him to purchase & has offerd him £17 - 10 - 0 pr. Bbl. which is 10/ more than he has given before; or to refer the Price to disinterested Judges, or to the Commis'y Genl. for the highest Price at his Election, all which he refuses; Mr. Leek has seis'd it for public Use, Hawley says he will pay attention to the Seisure, but will sell and the Commissary shall not have it. Under these Circumstances I must beg you to give some Orders to such Persons in that Quarter as you think necessary on the occasion.

I am with Esteem & Regard Y'r Excellency's Obed't Serv't

Saml. H. Parsons.

His Excellency Governor Clinton, Poughkeepsie.

Poughkeepsie 17th March 1778.

D'r sir, I rec'd your Letter of yesterday's date respecting provisions. As I have wrote to Genl. Washington Informing him of the Quantity of pork he might Expect from this Quarter (in which I governed myself by your acc't) I wish if it is possible that it might be forwarded on least it may have been depended on and a Dispointment be attended with fatal Consequences; but if however the Carting is so bad as not to admit of forwarding it we must Submit to the Delay. I cant believe any man, whatever

pretensions he may make, is a real friend to his Country who refuses to give his aid on this occasion, and if Military force is necessary to procure the Teams, I cant see under the Joint Resolutions of both branches of the Legislature of this State we can be Excused in not making use of it. The Case you mention of the Pork in the hands of Jesse Hawly, I will lay before the Legislature as some General provision in such Cases ought to be made. I don't believe that the Commissary in the present occasion will Incur any blame in holding the pork he has seized. I am sir yo'r

G. Clinton.

[To Gen. Parsons.]

[No. 1190.]

MANIFOLD ANNOYANCES.

Colonel Hughes Confiscates Iron Material From a Patriot Who Had Denied Possession.

Col. Malom's, 13th March 1778.

Sir, After I wrote your Excellency from the Village, the 11th, I proceeded to Kingsferry, where I found a Quantity of Nail-rod-Iron, which, on Inquiry I had reason to think was the Property of Col. Ogden, of Boonetown, who had, but a few Days before, sent me Word that he was very sorry he could not furnish the Department with that Article, as I had repeatedly applied, for several Months past, our Stock being nearly out,—Considering which, and the indispensable Necessity there is for Nails in the Service, I order'd them to be taken for publick use, taking an Acc't, and giving a Rec't for such Quantity as should appear on further Inquiry. I also sent up for a Boat to take in the Remainder of the Grain &c. as well as the Rods, part of which, was to be left at West Point, and the Rest as far up as the Ice would permit. In coming up thro' the Clove, with a Person from Boonetowne, he

assur'd me that the Nail-rods were the Property of Col. Ogden, and sent along to be of the way of the Service; as several Tons more had been; and this he learnt from the Gentleman, or some of his Family.

As it is not improbable but that some Acc't of this may reach your Excellency, thro another Channel, before I have the Honour of waiting on you, Sir, it was tho't prudent to give you the earliest Advice that Opportunity would afford.

Since I gaind the last Intelligence, I have order'd Major Kiers, as well as my Asst. at the Village, to make Inquiry for what has been already sent on, and secure them also, at least till further Orders, which I was induc'd to, from being told that the Gentleman did not intend to make any more for a considerable Time.

I must repeat my Application, that the Department may receive assistance of Teams, as it is utterly impossible to comply with the Demands of the Service without. A large Quantity of Salt is now at the Landing, and wanted at Headqrs. Besides, if the Enemy push up the River, it will be in their Power, and may be the Means of the most serious Consequences to the Army. Would not a Recommendation from your Excellency or the Legislature, to the Precincts, or Committees, to turn out, in Rotation, the Number wanted, on a written application from the Q. M. General's Department? However, I mean not to dictate, but only offer a humble Sentiment and beg to be thus understood Sir.

I am, with the greatest Esteem Your Excellency's most Obdnt. and very Humble Serv't

Hugh Hughes.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

THE GOVERNOR ANSWERS.

[March 17, 1778.]

D'r Sir, I rec'd your Letter of the 13th Instant on Satturday last previous to which I had answered that Part of it respecting the Nail Rods by a Letter to Genl. Parsons, who had also wrote to me on the Subject, & I doubt not but he has ere this communicated to you the Substance of my Letter to him on that Occassion. In respect to Impresses I am doing every Thing in my Power to assist you. You know it is not in my Power as Gov'r to grant you authority for this Purpose & I ought to be cautious how I walk. There is a bill however now depending that will I hope put this Matter Right & I am perswaded before the Roads are fit to be used it will be a Law. Yours Sincerely,

[G. C.]

[To Col. Hughes.]

[No. 1191.]

SCHUYLER CAN BE DEPENDED UPON.

Clinton Reluctant to Take Action Against the Indians Until the Legislature is Consulted.

Poughkeepsie, 18th March 1778.

Sir, I am honored with your Letter of the 16th Instant.* With respect to Vanschaak's & Putnam's Regiments I am not authorized to call them from Albany to this Quarter. I only meant by my Letter to submit the Propriety of the Measure to you, as we realy need a greater Number of Troops to carry on the Works for the Defence of the River, with the necessary Expedition than we have at present for this Important Purpose.

I am fully of your Oppinion that if any Troops can be consistently spared from Albany of which you are the best Judge,

*Not found.

the four Months Militia will be more useful on Fateigue than in the Field, & therefore they may be better spared for this Service than Van Schaack's Regiment. Genl. Ten Broeck ought to have compleated the four Months Militia to the full Complement as ordered him & you will oblidge me much by reminding him of this.

I am so little acquainted with the Western Frontiers, owing to the Number of New Settlements since I have been in that Part of the Country, that I am not able to advise on the Posts necessary to be taken there. I dare say Genl. Schuyler will at all Times chearfully afford you his advice on that Subject & I know of no Man more capable or in whom you may more confide. I am clear that it is better to remove the Torry Women you mention, than, to suffer them to continue where they now are, & it will afford me Pleasure how soon it is effected. We have always trusted to the Committees to disarm the Tories; we shall soon have Commissioners who will have Power competent for the Purpose. I am Sir with the greatest Respect Your Most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

I have the Pleasure to forward to you several Letters which I have this Moment rec'd by Express from his Excellency Genl. Washington.

[To Marquis de Lafayette.]

Poughkeepsie 19th March 1778.

Sir, In my Answer of yesterday to your Letter of the 16th, I
'ho it is only consistent with Principles of Humanity
Officer you mention go Home on his Parole,

yet in my Oppinion it woud be improper to indulge him with a Sloop to go to New York in, until the Enemy shall cause to be returned a Sloop which went down last Fall with a Flagg under the Direction of one Brooks, with a Number of Tory Families &c. The Sloop I mean belongs to one Capt. Baaf of Albany. Brooks is permitted to stay in the City & I suppose encouraged so to do & claims & holds the Sloop. I also omitted Answering that Part of your Letter, respecting settling the Indians you mention in the Western Country, and I cannot now venture to say any Thing on the Subject, as it is a matter concerning which the Legislature of this State ought to be previously consulted. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[No. 1192.]

*Dr. Hayes, a British Prisoner, Asks Information Relative to the Price of Rations.**

Sir, The Conversation I have had with you yesterday is of such moment to me, that I Cannot help earnestly requesting your taking it into immediate Consideration, that I may the sooner be enabled to go to New York agreeable to my passes.

The matter stands upon a very serious Consideration in point of Justice, Viz. 1th, Whether I am to pay *ten pence, two thirds* New York Currency for each ration, as is charged in the accounts deliver'd me and particularly stipulated by Dr. Potts, or *trible* the charge, which the Commissary has no authority do" 2dly Whether I may not replace by purchase, wood and rum which are charged at most enormous prices, and which your resolves allow. There are other articles charged at the same rates, but as they

*The name of the officer to whom Dr. Hayes wrote and who answered his complaint is not disclosed by the Clinton MSS. See page 177.—STATE HISTORIAN.

are trifling I shall not make them matter of dispute, but confine myself to the great impropriety of the other charges as I wish to act in the fairest manner. I only desire the favor of your investigating this affair, and doubt not of an equitable decision—but sh'd doubts arise, and you may not wish to decide on it, I shall beg leave to propose, that my receipt be received for the number of rations and sent your commiss'r of prisoners at New York or Philadelphia, to receive pound for pound of equal Quality, and for the due performance of which, I shall bind myself in any security you shall please to require.

I have the Honor to be with great respect, Sir, Your Most obed. humble serv't

John McNamara Hayes.

Albany March 18th 1778.

[No. 1193.]

And the Answer to Dr. Hayes' Communication.

Albany March 19th 1778.

Sir, I have received your Favour of yesterday, and was in hopes that the dispatches arrived last night from Congress could bring me some light about the affair you wish, and I desire very sincerely myself to see soon settled, but as I am disappointed in my Expectations I wont loose any Time in making you an answer which could be more particular, was I directed by the Sight of what passed between Maj'r Genl. Gates or any Body from him and you, but my being till this moment in that part of General Washington's army which is under his Excell's immediate command, has made me rather a Stranger to the point now in Question, and I assure you, Sir, if I am cautious it is more by fear of making any Injustice to you than by this of hurting our own Interest.

I am not entitled to ascertain that the Congress of the United States means to grant the Rations to the British Prisoners at the rates which is given to their Troops as a Bounty, tho it costs much more, but I can assure you, that you will not pay by any means a Farthing more in Gold than we have paid in paper. I am very sorry indeed, that the refusing of our Currency paper in the places now under your power, deprives you of the agreement of purchasing or reimplacing in a way which would perhaps be more convenient for you.

Your proposition of giving pound for pound of equal Quality, seems to me more consistent with the Intentions of the Congress of the United States, therefore, Sir, I think I will be able to agree with you in that point, when I will see or the Powers you are invested with, for taking those engagements and the Time stipulated for their performance or the proper Security you will be pleased to give—but, Sir, you will easily conceive that I cant give you a desiscive answer, when I do not know yet which have been the particular promises of Genl. Gates about your going to New York, and in the same time I see that you have not heard from him since you have wrote on that Subject and this of the Rations.

I have sent an Express to Congress who will be soon back, but my desire of complying to your wishes is such, that I have dispatched one other to the Governor of this State, who certainly must have known much more upon this affair than myself, who was farther and by whose intelligences I hope to be enabled to propose you several ways of settling the Business, which could be agreeable to you, then, Sir, I should not expect the answer from Congress & it gives me a great pleasure to see that on account of the weather till this Time and the necessary preparations my retarding for a few days a deciscive answer cannot detail your going to the place where you wish to be.

According to what you have told me in our Conversation, that our Conduct in this place should regulate this of your Generals I'l only answer that the Time is come, where we have no more Objection to a strict Retaliation on both Sides and on every respect. Sir, very sincerely I've the honor to be Your most obt. Ser't.

To Doct'r Hayes.

A Copy.

[No. 1194.]

The New Quotas and Their Equipment.

In Congress; March 19th 1778.

Resolved, That it be earnestly recommended to the several States to take the most speedy & effectual measures for raising their quotas of men, agreeably to the resolutions of Congress of the 26 ulto., & to cause the men so raised, or which had been raised, previous to the passing that resolve, to march to their places of rendezvous without the smallest delay; taking care that as many as possible come armed and accoutered.

And that a more certain & adequate supply of accoutrements may be provided.

Resolved, That it be recommended to each State to appoint some suitable person or persons to get made, with all possible dispatch, as many compleat setts of accoutrements & spare bayonet sheaths, as shall be sufficient for their respective quotas of troops; the cartridge boxes to be made to hold twenty nine rounds of cartridges, [illegible] made up [illegible] of good substantial [illegible] that the ammunition [illegible] and to prevent im[illegible] from the workmen [illegible] inspectors be appointed

to examine & receive the accoutrements, with orders to reject such as are bad & insufficient, & that the accoutrements so provided shall be sent forward with the troops, or as soon after as possible:

That in case in any State they have quantities of tin, instead of cartouch boxes, an equal number of tin cartridge cannisters be furnished agreeably to a pattern or description to be sent by the board of war.—Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson sec'y.

Recd. from S'cry. 27th.

[No. 1195.]

Major Stephens Reports the Condition of the Ticonderoga Cannon.

Albany, March 19th 1778.

H'd Sir, In compliance with your request signifid by Billet this day, I shall endeavour to give you as particular an account of the Canon sent from Ticonderoga as is come within my knowledge.

The Ice being very bad when the Sleys first went up, prevented their taking up the heaviest Pieces, in Consequence of which ten nine pounders, fourteen six pounders, eight four pounders and one three pounder have arrived, which are all more or less damaged, the heaviest of which I am stocking and putting Trunnions on, for immediate Service and I hope to have the whole completely mounted in fifteen days.

Lieut. Perry is just arrived informs me there are four eighteen pounders and one Twelve between Skeensbury and Fort Anns; One Thirty two Pounder, two twelves, and one Six pounder lost in the lake between Skeensborough and Ticonderoga, the rest remain at Ticonderoga. I shall endeavour to get the heavy pieces from Half Moon immediately, in order to have them mounted, and you may rest assured that no Exertions of mine shall be wanting to get the River in a good Posture for defence; altho I have never

received any orders or directions with respect to the disposition of the Cannon before or since their arrival, that, however, has not occasioned me a moments delay.

There are at present in the park two Six Pounders, and five three pounders, mounted on travelling Carriages, fit for immediate Service; also twelve Six pounders, one four pounder and Six three pounders, not damaged which I intend to have mounted as soon as the heavier Pieces are done.

I am Sir with much respect & Esteem Your Honor's most Obedient humb'e Ser't

Ebenezer Stephens.

To the Marquis de la Fayette.

[No. 1196.]

Ensign Brown Complains Because Juniors Have Jumped him.

To his Excellency George Clinton Governor of the State of New York.

The petition of Jonath Brown Humbly Sheweth your petitioner Entred Into the Service of the United States in the year Seventy Six in Collo. Van Scaick's Redgment; had the rank of fifth Ensign in the redgment Nov'r 14th 1776; received recruiting Orders previous to which I was Superseded by four who got rank of me. I [illegible] Collo. at that time if I was so used any more, I would by [illegible] Serve any longer; at the State Arrangment, Mr. Wendle [illegible] advanced over me who had never been in the Service before. [illegible] usage, in my Humble Opinion, is Sufficient reason for any [illegible] to do his duty to Decline the Service. I am [illegible] Country if I have my rank, but I Cannot [illegible] over me, for no other reason but because [illegible] ppointment and I had none. I have Re-

cruited thirty Odd men for the redgment, and he only one. I hope your Exellency will not Bleam me for resining. I Hope, Sir, you will Consider the premises and Grant me Such relief as you in your wisdom Shall devise, and your petitioner as in duty Bound Shall pray.

Jonathan Brown, En.

Poughkeepsie March 19th 1778.

[No. 1197.]

Thomas Palmer Puts in a Good Word for Samuel Brewster, Jr.

Sir, Agreeable to the Request of Col. Marvin, Chairman of the Committe of Orange County, which he Informed me was agreeable to an Order to him from your Excellency, and the Hon'ble Senate, I have Bound over the Bearer hereof, Samuel Brewster Jun'r, to appear at the next Supreme Court to be held in this County, to answer the Complaint of Col. Luddington ag't him for Transporting flour out of this State, Contrary to the Spirit of the Embargo Act &c.

Mr. Brewster Seems much Concerned that his Carracter Should Stand Impeached in a matter in which he Says he Conceives himself Intirely Innocent and in Order to Clear the matter up on his part, has applyed to the County Committe for a hearing. I Informed him, that I Conceived that Committe had nothing to do with it as a matter beyond their Power—he alledges, that as not only his Charracter but private Intrust is likely to be much Damaged if his Tryal is put of untill the Supreme Court Sits; he therefore Seems Extreamly anxious for a hearing. Upon which I Informed him that, poradventure, if he waited on your Excellency, you might favour him by Ordering Some Court of Inquiery before whome he may have a hearing. It appears to me If I have

a right Idea of his Intentions from his Representation of the matter, and from the Circumstance of the Bills of Parcels of the Salt he Imported being after the Imbargo Act took place, that he is Really Innocent of any Intention of Foregoing the Spirit of the Act—and if their is any fault it lies in the Commiss'r Mr. Brooks, Either thro Ignorance or design. And, if your Excellency would please to give yourself the Leisure to hear Mr. Brewster's Representation of the matter, I am a good Deal of Opinion your Excellency will be apt to think favourable of his Intentions—and should that be the Case your Exellency being perfectly acquainted with his General Charracter. I make no doubt your Excellency will favour him in anything Consistent with your honour and the Publick Safety.

I am with all Due Respect your Excellency's most Obed't & most humb'e Serv't

Thos. Palmer.

New Burgh 19th March 1778.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1198.]

Jonathan Brooks Files Two Grievances in Writing.

Sir, I Beg your Exelences Indulgence and your favarable Notis a few moments till I Relate to you two grievences I Labour under, as I know not how to be Redrest without your Notis. Sir, the first is that ye 10th of November Last past, I had two valuable horses taken from me by a quarter mast. of Genl. Larrad's Beegade, who told me that if I would send or Come to Ghoshen they should Be releaved; accordingly I went But was Denide my horses both By ye qua. M. of the Beegade and ye Corn. Commandant, which was Conl. Baley, till they got other teems to moove on again.

But it seems they was som what put to, to git teems, and so took my horses with them so that I have not got them to this Day, and have suffered much for want of them; now if your Exelence please, I Expect that if you would give me a few Lines, as your wisdom shall Direct to general Washenton, I would hope I should Be Redrest; my other grievance is that as I was appointed one of ye Commisioners for granting Licence to transport flower out of this state, a Report without foundation has prevaild, that I have Been wilfully gilty of Doing Rong In the Excecution of that office, which I am positive was never my Intention, and think it in my power to sattisfye your Exelence and Every other unpregidensed person of my Innosency had I an opertunity; so, sir, I also Begg that in your wisdom you would appoint some mode that I, with Mr. Bruster, ye Barcer hereof, may have an opertunity suddenly to Cleare our Caracters in that affair. I should not have had wrote to you But a Come my self, But Being alone and so Confinde, I Could not Come; if your Excelence pleases to grant me these favours I shall always Look on my self as your most humb. and Obd. ser.

Jonathan Brooks.

Bethlem Orring County.

March 19 1778.

To His Exelence Gorge Clinton at Pokipsee.

[No. 1199.]

SCHENECTADY DECLARES A GRIEVANCE.

Against Billeting of Troops, the Discrimination in Favor of Albany and One Man Holding Three Positions.

To the Committee of Schenectady,

Gentlemen, We the Inhabitants of this town & Distract beg Leave to Lay before you a state of Grievences which (in our

opinions) we have Just cause to Complain of, and as you are appointed by us to the Care and management of the public affairs in this District, It is though your Means we Look for and Expect Redress.

In the first place you know that a Barracks was Built Here for the Reception of Such Troops as might be ordered Here from time to time, in order that the Inhabetants Should be free from the Trouble and expence of Having them billited on them; that notwithstanding this, Last fall the Barrecks was Converted into an Hospital and the troops to be quartered here was billeted on us, which have been Both troublesom and finding them with firewood attended with a Great deal of Expence, which we have not had the Least allowance for but hope you wil indevour to procure us a proper Consederation for it.

Secondly, the director of the Hospital appointed a Comissary, and under him a Number of other officers for that Department, who are a part Disafacted persons to the States, which we look to be both Verry ungenerous and unjust to appoint Enemys to the Country to posts of profite while so many true friends are in want of bread; and altho the Sick have been intirely removed from the hospital Some Consederable time ago, a Docter Commessary, Deputy Commessary and their attendents are still keep in pay, which we look upon to be intirely a waste of the public money, and as we Expect to Bear a part of the public Expence we Cannot help Complaining of this abuse and hope that they may be Emediately Discharged.

Thirdly, that Great partiallity hath hetherto Been Shewen to the Inhabitants of Albany, apointing them in preference to us to posts and places in the public Service, tho the far greatest parte of the Citizens of Albany are in Some public posts, there is only

three Inhabitants of this Town Imployed in public Service (Exclusive of Soldiers); That they not Settesfyed with filling all the posts in Albany with their own friends but have Sent a Commisary and Commisary's Clark here to act, while we are Confident we have people Enough Capable to fill Such places.

That Upon all Ocations when the Melitia is Called out, we have Sent three men to the field for one that the City of Albany have done, they being Chiefly Exempt By the public Employment they hold; and we have been obliged to do their duty; this we look upon to be unjust and must beg Leave to tell you that we Expact a more Equatable Distribution of public offices will be made; That we at all times are willing to do out part of the public Service, providing we Can Keep Some proportion of the public Benefit, and unless we can have that, we disvice you will not call on us for any further Services, but on those who are filling their pockets while many of us are in Dainger of Suffering for want.

Fourthly, that one of the three Gentlemen in this town imployed in the public Sarvice, hold no less then four posts viz A. D. Quarter Master General, D. Commisary, D. Barrack Master, D. Forrage Master, which we look upon to be unjust for so many posts to be given to one man while so many are in want and have none at all.

Gentlemen These are the Grevences we at present Complain of and in full assurance that they will be redressed as far as in your superior Judgment they ought and in your power to procure we Remain.

Gentlemen with the Greatest Respect your most humble Sarvants

Schonectady March the 20th 1778.

Abraham Swits, Major; Jelles Fonda, Capt.; Abraham Je

Truax; John Mynders, Capt.; Thomas B. Banker, Capt; Laurance Mynders, Lieut; Jesse Van Slyck, Capt; Jacobus Peek, Lieut.

Arent S. Vedder, Albert S. Veedder, Jacobus V. Sice, Harmen Mynders, Jacob Fonda, Fradrick Clute, John F. Clute, Isaac Clute, John Empie, Thomas Barope, Ryckert V. Vranken, Dirick V. Vranken, Jillis Van Vorst, Mathis Clark, Johanis D. Fort, Danial Fort, Philip Grodt, Isaac Rosa, Daniel Cornue, Peter Peterson, Jacob S. Vroman, Abraham V. Vorst, Henry Van Drieson, Caleb Truex, David Frank, John Crowshorn, Isaac Suits, Henry Dowler, Elias Rosa, Cornelius V. De Volger, John Clute, John B. Vroman, Ahaswerus G. Marselis, John Coral, John Combs, Cornelius Groot, Abraham P. Truax, Andrew Truex, Hendrick Veeder, Simon John V. Antwerp, Cornelius De Graff, Simon J. Vroman, John Ogdon, John Van Dreson, William Lythall, Nicholas Barhuydt, Walter Vroman.

Schonectady Committee Chamber 24th March 1778.

The above is a true Coppy taken from the original.

And'w McFarlan Chair'n.

[No. 1200.]

Colonel Francis Barber Notifies Clinton That Washington and Howe Have Arranged for the Exchange of Prisoners.

Hanover, March 20th '78.

Sir, When I left Camp I promised myself the Honor of waiting upon you, but through badness of Roads & other Contingencies the Term of my furlough is so far elapsed as to prevent my traveling farther.

The Season of the Year has prevented any principal events taking place between the two armies, except an Accommodation *for the Exchange* of Prisoners. Gen. Howe had at length ac-

ceded to Gen. Washington's Terms, and the tenth instant was the day appointed for Commissioners from both to set in Germantown to settle the Exchange.

The army is undergoing another Change I hope, much for the better. The number of Officers is considerably reduced; which will afford an opportunity of dismissing the unworthy. Field Officers are allowed Companies; and the regimental Staff are to be taken from the Line, with an additional pay. Instead of three, there are to be only two Subalterns to each Company, a Lieut. and Ensign; and nine Companies in a Regiment, one of which will be Light infantry to be embodied in Battalion during Campign Service.

From the unsettled Office my brother held in the army, that of Adjutant in one of the sixteen additional Regiments which are to be reduced, I have prevailed upon him to return to his native Province, not doubting, if there should be an active Campeign here the ensuing Summer, that he might obtain an Appointment worthy his Acceptance. I therefore take the Liberty of recommending him to your Excellency's Notice.

I can with safety represent him possessed of merit and Abilities. His Capacity and Education is good; his Industry & Application to the Duties of an Officer has rendered him an exact Disciplinarian; and his Courage & Conduct in Action has ever been approved. In short his Behaviour was such the last Campeign as to induce Gen. Conway to place particular Confidence in him, and I will venture to vouch for his honoring any Appointment adequate to his Abilities & Experience.

I am Sir, with respect your Excellency's most humble Servant

F. Barber.

Governor Clinton.

[No. 1201.]

Militiamen Exceedingly Reluctant to Come Forward.

Albany, 20th March 1778.

Sir, Your Excellency's favour of the 9th Instant* I have Rec'd Agreeable to your Request I have Immediately on the Receip of your letter, wrote to the Several Colonells of my Brigade Requested them to point out to me such Officers as are disqual fied to serve their Country from disaffection or other Cause; have pressed them to do it without delay; as soon as I am fu nished therewith I will Transmitt it to your Excellency. A fe days ago I saw Collo. Williams from Charlottee County; he tell me it is Impossible for them to furnish any men; of the 320 me Ordered to be Embodied out of this County, only 78 Officer Included are come to this Place; there appears a most Shamefu neglect & I am Inclined to think the Officers are to Blame. Th manor of Livingston's Proportion was 31, & only three have a peared here as yet. A Militia Law is Exceedingly wanted. hope it will no longer be delayed. With great Respect I Remai

Your Excell'cy's Most humble Servant

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

Gov'r Clinton.

*See pages 13-14.

[No. 1202.]

A RETURN OF ORDNANCE AND STORES IN THE PARK, LABRATORY, AND ORDNANCE STORE IN THE CITY OF ALBANY MARCH 20TH 1778.

Brass Ordnance on Field Carriages with Implements Compleat.			Shot				8 Inch Shells and 5½ Inch Shells	Paper Cartridges		Flannel Cartridges		Caps & Covers for Flannel Cartridg's		Tin Tubes	Tin Tube Boxes	Fuses	Dozens Portfires	Reams Cannon Cartridge Paper	Reams Musquet Cartridge paper	Barrells Corn'd powder	Barrells meal'd powder	Iron Ordnance or Travelling Carriages with Implements Compleat.		
Size	Pounders	Number	Round	Case	Ready	Grape		Filled	Unfilled	Filled	Unfilled	Caps	Covers									Size	Pounders	Number
24	Ditto	2	497	52	60	—	—	—	60	—	—	—	—	100	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	Ditto	2
18	Ditto	—	616	—	—	—	—	—	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	Ditto	5
12	Ditto	1	1418	25	72	—	—	51	48	—	—	248	300	2040	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	Ditto	5
9	Ditto	—	—	82	—	23	—	182	312	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
7½	Ditto	1	—	108	—	84	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
6	Ditto	4	1020	171	523	261	—	10	294	—	3475	123	150	5500	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
4	Ditto	—	355	705	—	145	—	162	816	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
3	Ditto	2	51	712	591	28	—	114	888	—	—	—	—	1300	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
8 Inch Howitzers		—	—	9	—	—	158	—	—	9	50	—	—	414	—	415	—	—	—	—	—			
5½ Inch Royal Ditto		1	—	136	—	—	240	—	—	5	460	—	—	272	—	1057	—	—	—	—	—			
5½ Inch Royal mortars		3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Total		14	3960	2000	1246	491	398	519	2142	14	3985	371	450	9626	32	1472	54	38	44	2	1	Total		12

13	Ready Shot without Cartridges for 24 P'r	7	Boxes Grape Shot	5	Coils of White rope	3	Brass Quadrants
47	Ditto Ditto Ditto 12 P'r	3	Hogsheads Slow match	3	Boxes Tin	28	Boxes musquet ball
28	Ditto Ditto Ditto 6 P'r	9	Barrells Damaged powder	8	Casks Tin	2	Boxes of Signal Rockets
15	Case Shot without Cartridge for 12 P'r	6	Gin Blocks	10	Copper pans	10	Copper powder measures
82	Ditto Ditto Ditto 6 P'r	1	Gin Falls	½	Barrels Rosin	20	Copper Funnells
20	Shells filled for 5½ Inch Royal Howitzers	2	Rims Wire	22	Tin Lanthrons	½	Barrells Brimstone
13	Boxes of one pound ball	22	Boxes Gun Flints 1000 in each	600	Bullet pouches	100	Sheep Skins
2	Shell Hooks	4	Boxes Quick match	14	Bullet moulds	2	Brass Gauges
40	Punches	5	Boxes Twine	3	Brass Callipers	12,251	Dozens musquet Cartridges

116	Pieces Flannel
6	Oil Cloths
8	Musquets
3	Bolts Duck
6	Drudging boxes
1	Box Elabratory Tools
108	Paper Cartridges for 2 pounders
58	Copper Hoops
2	Budge Barrels
1	Kegs White Lead
2	Kegs Spanish Brown
20	Leather Haversacks

Iron Cannon in the park now repairing

Size	Pounders	No.
9	Ditto	10
6	Ditto	14
4	Ditto	8
3	Ditto	1
	Total	33

Iron Cannon in the park not mounted nor damaged

Size	Pounders	No.
6	Ditto	12
4	Ditto	1
3	Ditto	6
	Ditto	—
	Total	19

Ammunition Waggons	32
Tumbrels	10
Powder Carts	11
Travelling Forges	2
Setts Horse Harness	100
Setts men's Harness	38
Setts Drag ropes	14
Spare Cannon Caridges	7
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A RETURN OF ORDNANCE AND STORES SENT TO FARMINGTON IN THE STATE OF CONNECTICUTT—JANRY. & FEBRY. 1778.

Brass Ordnance on Field Carriages			Shot						Paper Cartridges																									
Size	Pounders	Number	Round	Case	Ready	Grape	8 Inch Shells	Inch Carcases	Filled	Unfilled	Fuses	Tin Tubes	Tin Tube boxes	Sponges and Rammers	Wormers	Ladles	Portfire stocks	Lintstocks	Priming Wires	Setts Drag ropes	Setts mens Harness	Handspikes	Fillers	Leather Haversacks	Hammers	Pinchers	Wads	Dozens Portfires	Ammunition Waggons	Tumbrells	Saddles	Traces	Collars & Traces	Oil cloths
6	Ditto	15	31	589	505	5	—	—	—	—	—	900	—	15	13	11	13	4	4	16	—	4	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	Ditto	10	109	825	—	259	—	—	167	360	—	150	—	14	11	8	8	8	6	12	—	9	—	—	—	—	333	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8	Inch Howitzers.	2	—	54	—	—	—	—	—	—	160	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Total	27	140	1468	505	264	26	19	167	360	160	1050	1	29	24	19	21	12	10	28	19	13	11	1	3	1	333	25	19	7	9	29	30	22

Dozens Musquet Cartridges	Barrels Flints	Coils Slow match	Gin blocks & Falls	Carpenters adzes	Axes	Chisells	Saws	Bits	Powder Horns	Squares
20,000	8	19	1	1	1		1	2	1	1

Samuel Hodgdon Commissary Ordnance & Stores.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the state of New York.

Examined By Ebeneser Stevens Major Artillery.

May it Please your Excellency, I Rec'd y'r Excellencies Letter this Day with Order to turn out one third part of this Regt. Immeadiately to march to West Point there being a Number of Exempts within the Destrict of this Regt. Such as have had Commissions in Service and others Refugees from Below who had Commissions there in Service and in the Militia and such as Calls themselves "Silver Greys" those persons Insists that they are not Bound to do Duty nor obliged to turn out when the militia are Call'd upon which has Created Great Uneasiness in this Regt. Especially among the Elder sort of people because among those Exempts are a Number of young People. I would therefore be Glad to know y'r Excellencies Pleasure whether those persons are Liable to Join the Regt. & whether it is in my power to Command them to do Duty in Proportion with this Regt. Would be Glad y'r Excellency would be pleased to send an answer p'r Bearer so that I may proceed accordingly. From y'r most Hble. & Obdt. serv't

Abr'm Brinckerhoff Lt. Coll.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor &c. of the State of New York.

Sir, I am directed by his Excellency the Governor in answer to your Letter to him of yesterdays date to Inform you, that if there are any Exempts by Militia Law in your Regt. he Conceives neither you nor himself can call them into the present Service

as Exempts if any there are must be Considered as Such a part of your Regt. from which your present Quota is to be taken. I am sir Your Hble. Ser't

[Secretary to G. C.]

Colo. Brinckerhoff.

[No. 1204.]

The Governors of New York and Connecticut Requested to Aid General McDougall in Completing the Defences of the Hudson.

In Congress; 21st March 1778.

Resolved. That gov'r Clinton & gov'r Trumbull be requested to give every assistance in their power to general McDougal for perfecting the defence of the North river.

Extract from the minutes;

Belcher P. Smith sec. p. Tem.

GOVERNOR CLINTON APPEALS TO THE LEGISLATURE.

He Desires Immediate Action Taken Against Suspects—The Order for the Militia to Proceed to the Highlands.

*Gentlemen. You will herewith receive a Resolution of the Honorable the Congress, of the 12th of March, Instant. The Subject of it is highly important, and demands your most serious Attention. I think it my Duty to inform you, that divers disaffected Persons and Families dwell and reside in the Vicinity of several of the Posts, Forts and Passes in this State, and that there is great Reason to suspect, that they are instrumental in giving the Enemy important Intelligence from Time to Time, of their State and Condition. It is not in my Power to remove them, and, therefore, submit to you the Propriety of speedily raising some Means whereby they may be removed. This Busi-

*From Journal of the Legislature.

ness calls for the greater Dispatch, as the Season for military Operations approaches fast. It is also proper, that you should be informed, that there are in this State, certain Persons who have collected considerable Quantities of Provisions of various Kinds, which they refuse to sell at the current Price, for Paper Money. This Evil, unless immediately remedied, may prove of dangerous Consequences, as there is Reason to presume, that those Supplies are intended for the Use of the Enemy.

I think it my Duty to inform you, that some late Accounts I have received of the Movements of the Enemy, have induced me to order a considerable Body of the Militia to the Posts in the Highlands, as well to provide for their Defence, as to forward the Works erecting there to secure the Navigation of Hudson's River. Should the operations of the Enemy render it necessary to call a greater Proportion of the Militia into the Field, I shall think it my Duty to head them; and therefore, I flatter myself, that the more important Objects only of the Legislature, will, for the present, engage their Attention.

Geo. Clinton.

Poughkeepsie, March 21, 1778.

[No. 1205.]

In Regard to the Sale of Lottery Tickets.

Albany ye 21st March 1778.

D'r Sir, I am Directed to make a Return to the Sitting Managers of the United States Lottery How many Tickets I have disposed of and what Remain on hand. You will please to Inform me the number you have Disposed of the 800 Tickets sent you. I Remain with great Esteem Your Excellency's most Obedient Humble Servant,

Dirck Ten Broeck, Commiss'r State N. Y.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1206.]

Colonel Hay Denies an Allegation.

Haverstraw March 23d 1778.

Sir, The day before yesterday I saw Judge Coe who informed me, that you told him that you had wrote me two Letters, and that you was much surprised that I had not answered either of them, I do assure you upon my word and Honor that I have not received a Single Line from your Excellency, since I had the pleasure of seeing you at New Windsor a little after the reduction of Fort Montgomery.

I beg your Excellency will now communicate the Contents of the above mentioned Letters, and your Excellency's orders shall be punctually complied with. I am with respect Your Excellency's Hum. Serv't

A. Hawkes Hay.

N. B. Please excuse great haste & the want of Paper.

To His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 1207.]

Returns of Colonel Ludinton's Regiment.

Return of the Regiment of Militia of the County of Dutchess and State of New York, Command'd by Collonel Henry Ludinton.

Fredricksburg Precinct March 23d 1778.

COMPANIES.	Field Officers			Comm'd Officers			Staff Officers			Non Comm'd		Rank and File
	Collonel	Lieut'r Coll'l	Major	Captains	Lieut'ts	Ensigns	Adjutant	Surgeon	Quart'r Master	Sergeants	Drum'rs	
John Crane's				1	2	–				4	1	60
David Waterbury's				1	2	1				4	1	57
John Haight's				1	2	1				3	0	52
Hezekiah Mead's				1	2	1				4	1	74
George Lane's				1	–	1				4	0	49
Nathaniel Scribner's				1	2	1				4	2	58
Joel Mead's				1	2	1				3	1	72
Total Strength of the Regiment.				7	12	6				26	6	422

[No. 1208.]

Colonel Malcom Recommends William Barber as an Aide-de-Camp to Governor Clinton.

Wallkill March 23rd 1778.

Sir, My neighbour Mr. Barber just now informs me that he is told you have vacancys for one or two Young Gentlemen as Secret'ys or A. D. C's and he is desirous to have his Son William in your Excellency's family—if you want an Aid D Camp, I am pretty certain that this Gentleman woud answer your purpose well. He was sick when I join'd the army last fall, so that I was not in field with him &, therefore, do not speak of him from my own Knowledge—but he acted as Major of Brigade to General Conway who highly praises him, as does the General voice of the Brigade, and many of the officers are very competent judges of military meritt.

I sett out for camp on Thursday or Friday, to make good my promise to Lord Stirling—for any other purpose it woud be needless to go, as the Regiment is or will be annexed to another, in consequence of the new arrangement, I hope to return in three weeks to the plough. My neighbour Dr. Clinton is well—be pleased to present my respects to your Lady & believe me to be very Sincerely Sir Your much oblidg. & very Hble. Serv't

W. Malcom.

Major Pawling waits for my going down, & will come up with me. I imagine he is wanted as I hear the regt. is going on.

His Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the State of New York.

[No. 1209.]

Governor Clinton Makes a Diplomatic Reply to Captain Dennis' Request.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr: I understand there is Likely to Be Conisderable of an Alteration in Col: Humfrey's Ridgt. Concerning officers. By A Late Return Made By Lt. Col. Vandeburgh which Return was Made Without the old Gentleman Having any agency in the Matter, Which if Should take Place will Be Very Disagreeable to the Ridgt. in General, Altho' its impossible to Please Every Body in Such Cases, if the Matter has not Past the Board of Appointment For that Purpose, Should it Be agreeable to your Pleasure to Consult Col. Humfrey Further upon the Matter, For the Publick's Good, Will Be a Singular Favour; as For my Part I have not any Private Prejudice against any Person or Publick View But as one Individual with Esteem to the Publick's Good, Conclude the Publick's Sincere Friend and your Most Humb'e Serv't

Jona. Dennis.

Beekmans Precinct, March 23d 1778.

Poughkeepsie 24th March 1778.

Sir, I am this Moment favoured with your Letter of the 23d Instant. It is some Days since the Council of Appointment compleated the Appointments of Officers for your Regiment, tho not altogether agreable to the Returns made by Colo. Humfrey or that made by Colo. Vandenbergh & the other Field Officers of the Regiment. It was my wish that Colo. Umfrey when he handed me his Return wound have staid the Evening & attended the Council of Appointm't. I asked him to do it but he declined. This

being the Case I coud only lay his Return with what he mentioned to me before the Council which was faithfully done. I am &c.

[G. C.]

[To Jona. Dennis.]

[No. 1210.]

President Laurens Notifies Governor Clinton of Several Important Acts of Congress.

York Town 24th March 1778.

Sir, Since the date of my last trouble to Your Excellency of the 12th Inst. by Brown, I have had the honor of presenting to Congress Your Excellency's favors of the 5th* & 7th the latter came through General Washington's hands—the first was committed to a special Committee who have not yet Reported. I have no other Commands on me relative to the very important subjects of Your Excellency's Letters but an Act of Congress of the 21st requesting Your Excellency & Gov'r Trumbull to afford General McDougal every assistance in your power for perfecting the defence of the North River which will be found within the present Inclosure* together with another Act of the 16th† for obtaining information from the several States of their determinations respectively on the Recommendations of Congress.

Mr. Morris being still on Duty in a Committee at General Washington's Camp, the State of New York remains unrepresented. I need not intimate to Your Excellency that our Union is suffering in its most essential Interests from a want of full & competent

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*See pages 868 and 872, Volume II.

†Resolved, That a letter be addressed by the president to the respective states, informing them, that the multiplicity and importance of the business of Congress, during the war, will require the constant attention of at least three members from each state; that, from the want thereof, the health of members has been frequently impaired, and the public business greatly obstructed; and that Congress request their immediate attention to this as a matter of great moment.

Representation. Every State must have felt the Ill effects of our general delinquency. I hope we shall awaken by degrees & in time to ward off an intolerable lash. I have the honour to be With the most perfect Esteem, Sir, Your Excellency's Most obedient & hum. serv't

Henry Laurens, President of Congress.

His Excellency Governor Clinton, New York.

[No. 1211.]

Relative to the Schenectady Committee's Remonstrance.

Schonectady Committee Chamber March 24th 1778.

Honoured Sir, We herewith inclose to you a Coppy of a Remonstrance laid before us, by a Respectable body of the Inhabitents of this district, and as it is not in our power to give Redress of any of the grievances therein Complained of, we beg leave to lay it before your Excellency, hoping that you will grant (or procure) them Such Redress as in your wisdom Seems Just. We are Honoured Sir with Greatest Respect Your most Hubl. Serv'ts By order of Committee

And'w McFarlan, Chai'n.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1212.]

General Gates's Friendly Disposition to Cooperate with Governor Clinton.

Albany, the 24th March 1778.

Sir: I have received yesterday a Letter from General Gates [illegible] Board of War Directing me by orders of Congress to assume the command at Albany. My Chief object and Desire is to cooperate with your excellency, in opposing the at-

tempts of the ennemy upon this state. I should esteem it a particular favour if you would please to advise me; and I Begg you will be persuaded that I will make it a point to comply with your intentions. I have Demanded an exact return of the artillery, small arms and ammunition now at Albany, and will let you know our situation as to these articles as soon as possible. I find with much concern that the troops in this Quarter fall very short of what they were Last November. The Number of furloughs is prodigious. I have Directed the commanders of Regiments to call in their men immediately, and if you think it adviseable I could wish that printed advertisements might be sent to the Diferent committees in the eastern states for that purpose. Coll. Nixon's Regiment Belonging to General Nixon's Brigade is quarter'd at Farmington. Does not your excellency think it would be proper to order that Regiment to repair to Poughkeepsie or to the West Point where I imagine they would be usefull? The artillery and stores at Farmington could be guarded by some militia. I Do not know whether I can with propriety send orders to that Regiment. In this and every other occurrence I wish to be Directed by your advice. I am with Respect, sir, Your most obedient humble servant

Tho. Conway.

P. S. I am told that Mr. Dyckenn at Poughkeepsie has or can procure a Large quantity of shoes to the amount of four thousand pairs; this article is very much wanting for the troops in this quarter, what shoes have been issued out of the Clothier General's stores can not be us'd as they are generally so small that they can hardly fitt Children.

To his Excellency Governour Clinton, Poughkeepsie.

[No. 1213.]

The United States Treasurer Reports the Arrival of the Copper Plate Printer, Kinnan.

York Town, March 25th 1778.

Honored Sir, Your goodness I doubt not will excuse me for troubling you in behalf of the Public, and for my not having any acquaintance your way to write to.

Have to inform you of the arrival of William Kinnan the Copper plate printer you were pleas'd to send us. We have now to request the favour that you'll please get purchased of Mr. William Post, at Poughkeepsie about 10 or 12 lb. of Frankford Black, that the same be well pack'd up and sent hence P the first Express coming to Congress. Youll please to address the same to me, and draw for the amount on Honor'd Sir Your most Obed't Serv't

M'l Hillegas, Treas'r to ye United States.

Let me pray you to be as expeditious as possible, as it is much wanted by the public.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1214.]

THE ALBANY COMMITTEE AND GOVERNOR CLINTON.

Dr. Hayes's Proposition Vetoed—Disposition of British Prisoners and of the Disaffected.

Albany Committee Chamber, 17th March 1778.

Sir, I am directed by the Committee to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's Letters of the 4th *inclosing a List of the Names of sundry Persons enlisted under one Stephen Hooper and that of the 9th Instant, and to inform you that upon the receipt of the former, Capt. Price was dispatched with a Party to

*See page 839, Volume II.

apprehend and secure the Persons mentioned on the List; he was so far successful as to apprehend Hooper and Van Hening the principals and ten of their accomplices who are in close Custody; several of them have been examined but no confession could be extorted from either of them. The Committee will however leave no means unessayed to obtain a full discovery and thereby endeavour to defeat any Conspiracy that may be on foot.

Your Excellency may rest assured that proper Notice will be taken of Huyck and Carpenter upon their return from New York.

The Committee have also directed me to inform you that it is their wish if it can be effected to have Alexander White, late Sheriff of Tryon County, exchanged for some one of our Friends now in Captivity at New York, and they could wish your Excellency would endeavour to Negotiate an exchange in such manner as you shall think proper.

Joshua Bloore has applied to the Committee for their recommendation to your Excellency for leave to go with his Family to England. The Committee have also directed me to inform you that they have no objections to his going but could wish to have him and Family exchanged if such exchange can be effected.

As the River is now opening, and as it is more than probable that the Enemy will endeavour to come up the River—the Committee would beg leave to suggest to your Excellency whether it would not be prudent to have the Tory Prisoners removed from this Place.

The Committee have been informed that Doctor Hayes the Director of the Brittish Hospital, has applied for leave to remove his Hospital to New York. As the Doctor and his Assistants are well acquainted with the situation of our affairs, the Committee conceive it highly improper that his request should be granted,

and, therefore, beg leave to suggest to your Excellency whether it would not be prudent to hint to the Commanding Officer not to permit Dr. Hays to remove the Hospital to New York and that he be advised to order them together with all Brittish Prisoners in this and Tryon Counties to be removed to one of the Eastern States.

If any of the Troops now in and about this City are to go down to the High Lands, it is the Committees wish that the three Massachusets Bay Regiments may be ordered to that place, as they would feign have Van Schaick and Hazen's Regiments remain here, not only as they are better disciplined but because they are better acquainted with the situation of this and the Neighbouring Counties. I am with great respect Your Excellency's most Obt. Serv't

By order

John Barclay Chairman.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[March 25, 1778.]

Sir, I have received the Committee's Letter of the 17th Instant, & have wrote to the Marquis Lefayette on the Subject of the British Hospital & suggested to him the propriety of removing the Prisoners of Warr now at Albany & adjacent Parts to one of the Eastern States. An Act* of the Legislature has passed ap-

*This act was passed February 5, 1778. It authorized the Governor to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of Appointment, at least ten commissioners for detecting and defeating conspiracies in the state. These commissioners, or any three of them were given authority to send for persons and papers, administer oaths, and to apprehend and confine in such manner and under such restrictions and limitations as they should deem necessary for the public safety "all persons whose going at large shall in the judgment of the said commissioners or any three of them appear dangerous to the safety of the state." They were empowered to take "bonds and recognizances from time to time to the people of this state for the good behavior, safe custody or appearance" of all suspects. It was further decreed "that no judge or magistrate shall bail any of the persons who may be confined by authority of the said commissioners and that no court shall deliver any of the gaols within this state of any person or persons so confined"—"unless such persons shall have been indicted and tried for the offence or offences for which he or she shall have been respectively committed."

By an act of April 3, 1778, the number of commissioners was increased to twenty.—STATE HISTORIAN.

pointing Commissioners for detecting & Defeating Conspiracies within this State whose proper Business it will be to do what may appear necessary respecting the disafected in your Goal. Next Month I hope the Supreme Court will sit in your County & Deliver your Goal of many.

I shall be happy in exchanging Mr. White & the other Persons you mention if I shall be able to effect it & am Your Most Obed't Serv't [G. C.]

[To John Barclay.]

[No. 1215.]

Governor Clinton Calls Lafayette's Attention to the Matter.

Poughkeepsie 25th March 1778.

Sir, I am honored with your Letter of 19th Instant. I am much oblidged to you for the Attention you are pleased to give to the Security of Hudson's River.* I daily expect Major Genl. McDougall to take the Command of this Department by which I hope I will in some Measure be relieved from the Superintendance of that Business which has hitherto greatly interfered with my other Duties as a Civil Magistrate.

It is clearly my Oppinion that the British Hospital ought not to be suffered to go to New York on any Account until their exchange shall be properly settled. This cannot be effected until a final adjustment of their accounts due to the respective States for

*The total number of the British forces in America representing the effective fighting strength on March 26, 1778, was as follows—as copied from the original returns in the State Paper Office:

Philadelphia.		New York.		Rhode Island.	
British	13078	British	3486	British	1610
German	5202	German	3689	German	2116
Provincial	1250	Provincial	3281	Provincial	44
	19530		10456		3770

Total of the Army, 33756.—STATE HISTORIAN.

necessaries found them be made agreable to the Resolve of Congress of the 26th Feb'y. a Copy of which I now inclose you. I begg Leave to suggest to you the Propriety of removing the Prisoners of War now in Albany & the adjacent Country to some of the Eastern States as their Continuance in Albany might be an Inducement to the Enemy to come up the River. I am with great Respect your Most Obed. Serv't

[G. C.]

The Right Honble. The Marquis Lefayette.

[No. 1216.]

Ebenezer Stevens Writes in Regard to Ordnance.

Albany, March 25th 1778.

Honred Sir, Having been favour'd by the Marquiss de la Fayatte with a late resolve of Congress which directs me to deliver all the Iron Ordnance repair'd or repairing in the park, and any quantity of Stores you may please to call for or Order,—I thought it proper to inclose a Copy of a return just forwarded to Congress, by which you will be able to determine, or at least form some judgment wheather the quantity on hand will be sufficient for the Use of this department the approaching campaign, or not, and in either case take your directions.

In complyance with my duty and to prevent any delay in forwarding what you may have occasion for, I must inform your Excellency that all orders for Cannon and Stores must be drawn on me, as the whole are at present under my immediate direction, and I am accountable therefor, that so proper receipts may be taken and bussiness circulate through its proper chanell. Your Excellency may rest assured that no exertions of mine shall be wanting in my department, but your Orders in every instance in *my power* shall be expeditiously executed.

Relying on your assistance in the great work we have on hand, for which I am directed to apply, and wishing your Excellency prosperity in your unweaired exertions for the publick safety. I Remain with much Esteem Yours to Command

Ebenezer Stevens.

His Excellency Govenor Clinton.

Governor Clinton Submits Copies of Two Letters to the Legislature.

*Gentlemen, You will herewith receive Copies of two Letters I have lately received, the one from Major-General Schuyler, the other from Colonel Williams.

The Subject Matter of both these Letters is important, and, in my Opinion, merits the Attention of the Legislature.

Geo. Clinton.

Poughkeepsie, March 26, 1778.

[No. 1217.]

Governor Clinton Introduces Kosciuszko to General Parsons.

Poughkeepsie, 26th March 1778.

Dear Sir, Inclosed you have a Return of the Artillery at Albany which in Point of Size fall extreamly short of what I have had Reason to expect & is imagined by the Board of War. It seems few of the Heavy Pieces which alone woud have been serviceable for the Defence of the River have been brought forward. They were it seems sent for but too late. The ill contrived intended Northern Expedition occasioned the Delay.

Colo. Kuziazke who by a Resolve of Congress is directed to act as an Ingeneer at the Works for the Security of the River will

*From Journals of the Legislature.

deliver you this: I believe you will find him an Ingenous Young Man & disposed to do every Thing he can in the most agreeable Manner. If you have any News pray communicate it to your Most Obed't Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

Genl. Parsons.

[No. 1218.]

The Albany Committee Withdraws the Request to Retain Colonel Van Schaick's Regiment in Tryon County.

Albany Committee Chamber 26th March 1778.

Sir, We wrote you some time ago and requested that Collo. Van Schaick's Regiment might remain here as the Officers and Men of that Regiment were well acquainted with the situation of this and Tryon Counties. This request has caused great uneasiness among the Officers, and several of them have absolutely declared that they will resign their Commissions in Case the Regiment is again divided and kept upon the Communication. The Collo. is also very uneasy about it and has earnestly requested the Committee to write to your Excellency upon this Subject.

I am, therefore, directed by the Committee to inform your Excellency that as this matter gives uneasiness they do withdraw the request made to your Excellency, and wish the Regiment may be gratified and put in such a situation as that they may have an opportunity to serve their Country agreeable to their wishes. I am Your Excellency's Most Obt. Serv't

By order. John Barclay, Chairman.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 1219.]

Elizabeth Galatia Complains of Johnson's Marauding Rangers.

Philipse Burgh 27th March 1778.

Honoured Sir, I am Extremely Sorry I should have Occasion to trouble your Excellency with a Complaint against any of the Soldiery which are under your Command, Especially at a Time when you must be Embarrassed with Business of the utmost Importance to this State. But as I am persuaded of your Excellencies disapprobation of the Conduct pursued, I Esteem it my duty as a Subject of the State, to acquaint you that a few days Since a Number of armed men, Belonging to Capt. Johnson's Rangers came to the House of John Warner (with whom I Live) and destroyed 1 mahogany Desk & Book Case, & 1 Mahogany Desk of my property, and plundered me of 11 yards Brown Camblett, 2 Rose Blankets, 2 Flannel Sheets, 2 Black Silk Handkerchieves, 1 Muslin apron, 2 gauze Caps with Ribbons, ½ doz. Gilt China Cups & Saucers, 2 Blue & White ditto 1½ yards of Silk Gauze & 2 yards of Ribbon.

I Consider the above treatment to be peculiarly hard as my Deceased Husband and myself have always been Strongly attached to the American Cause But shall Leave the matter with you and Subscribe myself Your Excellencies Most Obedient most Devoted and very humble Serv't

Elizabeth Galatia.

To His Excellency Geo. Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1220.]

Clinton Apprises Schuyler of His Appointment as a Delegate to Congress.

Poughkeepsie 27th March 1778.

Dear Sir, I have the Honor to inform you that the Legislature of this State by the respective Resolutions of both Branches on

the 25th Instant have appointed you an Additional Delegate to represent this State in the Congress of the United States of America to continue in Office until the Expiration of the Time for which the present Delegates are appointed. I am, therefore, to desire that you will repair to Congress & enter upon the Duties of your Office with as much Expedition as your other Avocations will possibly admit of. To induce you to this I need only mention that the State at present is unrepresented in Congress* occasioned by the non Attendance of a Number of the Members. You will please to make this Place in your Route to York Town that I may have the Pleasure of seeing you (which I earnestly wish) & of delivering you your Commission. With best Respects to Mrs. Schuyler & Children believe me with great Regard & Respect Your Affectionate H Serv't

G. C.

Your Favour of the 16th came safe to Hand for which I thank you.

[To Gen. Schuyler.]

[No. 1221.]

Captain Robert Johnston Writes Governor Clinton a Short. Newsy Letter.

Clarks Town, March 27th 1778.

Sir, I have Sent your Excellency one Barrel of Wine as I was So Near the River I Sold the hole pipe but prevaild on the Man to Let your Excelancy have a barrel I have also Sent you 6 pound of Coffe by William Graham. I was Last Sunday Down below Bargin with a Small Scout and took Nine fat Cattle but Comeing through Bargin the Enhabitence took them from us again and was Glad to Make our Escape on Mund Night. I Sent a party of Eight

*See pages 77-78.

Men over to York Island Below Spiteing Devil and Broght of upwards of one hundred pounds worth from one of there Randeves houses Sence they have Sent a Ship of war to Spiteing Devil Crick. My Mens times are Near out and Shall Be Glad to No, wheather I are to Continue, for if there Be No Gards, Cept Below, this fine Country will be over Run by thes villings and the poor Enhabitants become a pray to them. from your hum. Servant

Robrt Johnston Capt.

Sir I have had No oppertunity to Get you Any Cambrick but the first oppertunity, you May Depend I Shall Get it and Send it to your Excellincy. I Desird all the Capts here to Give Me a List of the Men that will Not do Duty in there Several Compays and Shall be Glad to No wheather I have done Right. I have So Many Torys here that I Dare not Ride in the Night any More.

[To G. C.]

[No. 1222.]

General Conway Changes His Opinion Regarding the Four Months' Men.

Albany 27th March 1778.

Sir, I propos'd to you yesterday to send the four months militia to Schonectady in order to relieve Coll. Van Schayk's Regiment but Coll. Wyncoop tells me that the militia now in this town are such men as are not to be trusted in such a place as Schonectady, where there are a good many Disaffected people and that he imagines that they are fitter for the purpose of working than for any other object. I thought to mention this to you and will act according as you Direct. I am Sir Your Excellency's Most obed't humble Serv't

T's Conway.

To his Excellency Governour Clinton, Poughkeepsie.

[No. 1223.]

Colonel William S. Livingston in Distress Over the Loss of His Horse.

Beverwyck, 28th March 1778.

Dear Sir, I most heartily congratulate you on the News of General McDougall's being appointed to take the Command upon the River, being fully convinced that should an Hour of Distress again arrive we shall not want that Assistance which might tend to our relief. General Putnam is an easy, good natured, well meaning credulous old man, but wholly incapable of judging for himself and others in Time of need. His Services in the early period of this Controversy were of some Importance and a genteel Compensation for them accompanying his retirement is all that he now can, or ought to expect. A Friendly Hint of the Kind from some intimate Acquaintance to that purpose would not perhaps be improper.

I have been waiting at Home to endeavour to purchase a Horse but cannot get one in the whole County. In the Fort I lost my Horse Saddle, Great Coat, Sword & Pistols and where I can replace either of them I know not. Walk to the Regiment I cannot. I must have a Horse or Stay at Home. If you will be so obliging if you should hear of any for Sale as to let me know it I will be much oblige to you. The Enemy I am confident took no Horses down to York with them, so that I am perswnaded the People in that Neighbourhood must be in possession of mine. The Horse I contracted with Col. Shuldon of the Connecticut Dragoons for. He is branded in his Fore & hind Hoof with the Letters A. L. D. He was detain'd there for the Use of the Garrison. Machin rode him that Day and sent him several Expresses. I have not paid Shuldon for the Horse and as he was

purchased by him for the Continent I think they ought to loose him. If you should be of the same Opinion and will Certify to me his Detention I shall be oblig'd to you. Had he not been wanted I would have sent him away with the other one by my Servant. As soon as I can purchase a Horse or find a Tory who I can with Propriety take one from I hope to see you.

Mrs. Livingston and the Family join in most affec'e regards to you Mrs. Clinton and all Friends with you with your affec'e Friend And Very Hum'e Serv't

Wm. S. Livingston.

P. S. The Congress in a similar Instance allowed Donald Campbell for every Thing he lost at the Illinois and why should not I be made whole?

To His Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State of New York.

[No. 1224.]

The War Board Issues a Circular Relative to Cartridge Boxes and Canisters.

War Office March 28th 1778.

Sir, I do myself the honor to inclose you the resolves of Congress of the 19th instant,* respecting the Troops destined to reinforce the grand Army. Unfortunately, after they were passed, they lay several days before they were handed to this Board; but they demand the most immediate attention & execution. What gave rise to the first, was an apprehension that the recruits might be detained in their respective states 'till they had been inoculated. This, the present posture of our Affairs absolutely forbids. The Campaign will soon open; and with all the diligence practicable it is to be feared the reinforcements will not arrive in time to enable the Commander in Chief to take

*See pages 58-59.

measures the most necessary & advantageous before the Enemy get reinforced.

General Washington has received Intelligence that they are embarking Troops at New York, & Rhode Island; destined (it is said) for Philadelphia; and he is to the last degree anxious to have the reinforcements speedily join him; in the first place, that he may be prepared for defence; in the second, to take advantage of any favorable Circumstance which may happen to injure the Enemy.

The recommendation to provide Cartridge Boxes, & Tin Canisters for Cartridges, is given because of the almost total want of them in the public stores, and the impossibility of making a number in any degree equal to the demands of the Army, in the public manufactories, where the Workmen are few, & it is impossible to encrease them: agreeably to the direction of Congress, the board give the following description of the Tin Canisters.

They are to be six Inches & a half deep, or long; three inches & three quarters of an Inch broad (this breadth receiving the Cartridges lengthways, as they lie in a horizontal position) and two Inches & seven eighths of an Inch thick; (this thickness admitting four Cartridges, to lay Side by Side). A box of these dimensions, in the Clear, will well Contain thirty Six Cartridges with Ounce Balls. A Wire is to be fixed in all the edges at the Top, and then each side turned down (outwards) a full half Inch, and soldered. The Cover is to be a full half Inch deep, so that when fixed on the Cannister, the Edges shall Come close down to the ledge form'd by the Inclosed wire. This Cover at one End turns on a hinge an inch and a quarter long, the wire (fixed as above mentioned) being laid naked, that space, for the purpose. A piece of tin is run underneath this wire, doubled together,

k Soldered on the inside of one End of the Cover. The Soldier Carries a Cannister by a shoulder belt, as he does a Cartridge Box; and for this Reason the Cannister has fixed to it three loops of tin, each half an Inch wide, with the edges turned back, to be smooth & Strong; one of them is placed underneath the middle of the bottom, and one on each of the narrowest sides, the latter at four Inches distance from the bottom to their lower edges. The loops are to be bent down at each end, and very well soldered, leaving a Space to admit a leathern belt full one inch & a half wide, and nearly an eighth of an inch thick.

The Cover opens against one part of the belt, which causes it to fall down, after a Cartridge is taken out by which means the rest are Secured from accidental Fire. If possible, the Cannisters should be Japanned, or painted, to preserve them from Rust; and all fixed with belts.

The Board are of Opinion that these Cannisters are preferable to Cartridge Boxes, as they will infallibly Secure the Cartridges from rain; and their weight is so trifling as to be of no burthen to the Soldier. And seeing leather is so scarce they will be a most Excellent Substitute for Cartridge Boxes. I am, Sir, with great Respect, Your Most Obed't Humble Serv't

Horatio Gates president.

To His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 1225.]

CAPTAIN JOHNSON'S MARAUDING RANGERS.

Governor Livingston of New Jersey Makes Complaint to Governor Clinton of New York.

Princeton 29 March 1778.

Sir, It is represented to me that one Capt. Johnson of your State commanding a company of rangers is guilty of committing

great Depredations in the northern parts of this State. I have ordered the Justices of the peace in that part of the Country to take Depositions respecting his robberies; but not having yet received them, I cannot charge him with any particular robbery. But it being at all events improper for him to exercise any military authority in New Jersey under a Commission from New York, I hope he will be called from this State by the authority of yours, before more disagreeable measures become necessary. I am with great Respect Your Excellency's most humble Serv.

Wil: Livingston.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

Poughkeepsie 29th April 1778.

Sir, I have received your Excellency's Letter of the 29th of March last. If Capt. Johnston has committed any Robberies or Irregularities in your state or elsewhere it is contrary to the most positive Orders and I shall be well pleased how soon & severely he may be punished for them. I gave him particular Directions if his Scouts shoud at any Time enter your State (which on certain Occassions might be necessary) & shoud meet with any of its Inhabitants going to or returning from the Enemy without special Leave, to secure them with the Effects found with them & report them to the nearest principal Officer of your State which he, I trust woud not be considered as exercising any undue Military authority in New Jersey under a Commission of this State, especially as the Company was ordered into Service at the Instance of the Commanding Officer of the Continental Army in this Department & was subject to his Orders. I have had Complaints made to me ag't Johnston & I have pressed the Persons

who made them to support them by Proof that he might be punished & removed but have never been able to prevail upon them to do it.

I have had Mr. Peter Fell appointed Major of a Regiment raised in this State for one year. Part of it will be stationed on the Southern Frontiers of this State on the West Side of the River where Major Fell will be stationed in Command. As he is an Inhabitant of your State & a prudent discreet Officer I wish he might also have the Command of such of our Troops as may be stationed in that Quarter, as I am perswaded it woud conduce to the Safety of both & coud not fail being agreable to the Inhabitants who know him. I am Sir with due Respect Your Excellency's Most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

[To Governor Livingston.]

[No. 1226.]

Colonel Tusten Gives Reasons for Not Reporting a Full Quota.

Goshen, 29th March 1778.

May it Please Your Excell'y, I am to inform you that I reciev'd your Orders of the 19th Inst't but had anticipated your Request at the desire of Mr. Wisner, tho I confess I did not think his application regular, yet being convinc'd that the measure was Necessary & not Doubting it would be approv'd of by your Excel'y. I ventur'd to follow the Example of the Neighbouring Regts. but am not so happy as to be able to inform you that they turnd out with alacrity in General; tho great allowencies ought to be made on account of the smallpox, it being very generly through the Regt. so that those who have it themselves or in their Families, think they have a proper Excuse, whilst those who have never had it are affraid (and not without some reason)

of stiring abroad: but it must be confessed that some neglect or refuse to go, with the paltry excuse of not having been paid for their last years services; which difficulty I hope you will enable me to obviate by paying the amount of the several abstracts & Pay Rolls Mr. Thomson the Bearer hereof waits upon you with; & if the Commissions for the Regt. are made out you will please to send them by the same Conveyance, with the Necessary directions for quallifying to our respective Officers, in order that the Regt. might be in such a situation as that your future Orders might be obey'd with the greater facility. I hope also to se very soon a more compleat Sistem of Militia Regulations suited to our present Exigencies for our present method of doing Business is intolerable, in this Regt. to any man that has not the patience of a Philosopher. I have the honor to be Your Excel'ys Obed't Serv't

Be'n Tusten, Jur.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1227.]

John Henry Suggests the East Side of the Ulster County Mountains as a Clothing Depot.

His Excellency Gov. Clinton.

Sir, Since I waited on you the beginning of this month, have been at Shawangunck & believe can be able to procure a place to Deposit the Cloathing Stores of the State in. The only thing wanting in that matter is your positive Direction, & woud be extreamly happy to have it immediatly in order that I may govern myself accordingly: You know very well the inconveniency that will arise from haveing any Stores in this quarter of the world, & as the new Supplies are Shortly expected in, it

is highly necessary to have Some place fix't upon before they come to hand; here there is no place, & indeed If there was it is intirely out of the way of doing business with your Excellency or the Regiments which belong to this State.

Therefore woud be glad how Soon my Directions (for my future goverment) Should come to hand. I believe the Stores will be much Safer in the East Side of the mountain then in this indian Side. I shall wait your answer with Patience, at the Same time will expect to have your written Direction along, how I am to act.

I am wishing your Excellencey all imaginable Success in Securing the Passes in the Highlands from the approaches of a Hostile & barbarous enemy. I beg leave to remind you, respecting the request I askt of you for my brother Robert, who at present is with me, I hope you will always find him a good Subject & a trusty Officer.

I have the Honor to be with real Esteem Your Excellencey's Most Obed't Hu'ble Serv't

John Henry.

Rochester 29th March 1778.

[No. 1228.]

RECALCITRANT MILITIA.

Governor Clinton Prefers to Dismiss Them Rather Than Allow Them to Make Trouble.

Albany 25th March 1778.

Sir, Lieut. Col. John H. Beekman (who I have appointed to the Command of the four months militia), Informs me has Received Orders to hold himself in Readiness to go down to the Highlands, that this Order comes very Unexpected, that his men

appear very Uneasy, as they Understood they were to stay in or near Albany. In the later part of my Order for Embodying these men (Copy of which I hereinclose)* I make use of the later part of your Excellency's letter of the 1st Febry. that in all Probability they will be Stationed in or near Albany; they seem to avail themselves of this, I am well Convinced they will be more Usefully Employed below then in or near Albany yet if your Excellency should be of opinion that the Exception is well founded I could wish you Sir to hint the same to the Commanding Officer here.

Notwithstanding my Orders & Col. Beekman's writing since by my Orders to the Several Colonels he has not got 200 men Officers Included & Several without arms, this, my dear Sir, gives me great pain. Pray be so good as to Suggest to me what farther Steps to take. I hope a good militia Law so much wanted will (if not already) soon pass. Last week I saw Col. Williams of Charlotte he tells me they have no men & and that he has wrote to your Excellency, I have the honour to be with the greatest Respect Your very Obedient Servant

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

his Excell'cy George Clinton Esqr.

D'r Sir, I am honored with the rec't of your Letter of the 25th Inst. I am much at a loss what farther orders to give you respecting the militia who were to be raised out of your Brigade & the County of Charlotte. It is Clear to me however if they were led to believe when they Engaged in the Service that they were to Continue in the Neighbourhood of Albany, it will be difficult if not impolitic to Send them elsewhere, and if they are not absolutely Necessary there it may be best to dismiss them

*Not found.

om the Service. On this Subject I have wrote fully to Genl. onway Commanding at Albany with whom you'l please to consult on the Occasion. Believe me with great Sincerity Your Friend & Most Obed't Serv't

G. C.

Poughkeepsie 30th March 1778.

Genl. Ten Broeck.

[No. 1229.]

GOVERNOR CLINTON WRITES OF THE MILITIA.

And Utters Several Sound Military Ideas to General Conway—Guarding the Stores at Farmington.

Poughkeepsie, 30th March 1778.

I am honored with the Receipt of your Letters of the 24th* 26th & 27th Instant by which I have the Pleasure of learning that you are to remain in Command at Albany. Be assured, Sir, that nothing in my Power shall be wanting to render your Situation agreable to yourself & extensively useful to the Public. I am sensible that a Number of the Troops which were stationed last Fall at Albany were permitted in the Winter to go Home on Furlough, a practice which is very Injurious to the Service, but in the present Case may be excusable in some Measure as the Men were almost naked & had large arrears of pay due them & which was out of the Power of the then Commanding Officer to discharge & without this Indulgence Desertions still worse might & most likely woud have taken Place. These are the Reasons offered for the Officers in Exculpation of themselves as I am informed and I think they are not without some Weight. No Excuse Can be offered, however, for not collecting the Troops who are thus dispersed & I woud advise that every Officer that

*See pages 78-79 and 89. Conway's letter of March 26 not found.

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can be spared be sent out for the Purpose as I am perswaded shoud this Service be left with Committees on Advertisements issued for the Purpose it will be neglected or at least imperfectly executed.

I am clearly of Oppinion with you, that the Artillery & Stores at Farmington may be guarded by the Militia of the State and that it woud therefore be wrong to leave a whole Brigade of Continental Troops there for that Purpose at a Time when their Services are so much wanted in the Field, particularly at West Point where they are by much too weak even to carry on the Works, much less to defend the different Passes shoud they be attempted. It might perhaps be well to leave with the Stores at Farmington one or two Companies of Continental Troops under a Carful Active Officer if for no other Purpose than to prevent plundering & to make the Militia more alert than they usually are when left alone.

If, Sir, you shoud find the four Months Militia such as are represented by Colo. Wynkoop & that they continue to persist in the Oppinion that by the Terms of their Engagement they were to continue the Neighbourhood of Albany I woud rather in that Case wish you to desire Genl. Tenbroek to dismiss them the Service than to have any Difficulty with them; & the more so as I have Reason to believe their Officers encouraged them to hope this shoud be the Case, and in this I am warranted from the Resolve of the Board of War mentioning that they were to replace so many Continental Troops in Albany. And as we are now about making Drafts from the Militia to fill the Continental Regiments it woud be impolitic to dispute with them or force them into Service on any other than the Terms on which they supposed they engaged.

I am happy to find you entertain the same good Oppinion of Vanschaik's Regiment with myself. I wish they coud be colected & brought into the Field. Men are never so serviceable near Home as at a Distance from it. Albany or Schonectady, therefore, is not the most elligible Situation for that Regiment. Suppose one of Nixon's Brigade was ordered to Albany & Van Schaak's sent to this Quarter.

Genl. McDougal arrived at Fishkill to take the Command of this Department on Satturday last. I will take the Liberty of communicating such Parts of your Letters to him as relate to it. I am perswaded he will be happy in cooperating with you in every Thing which may tend to the Safety of the Country & promote the public Service. I have the Honor to be with the highst Respect Your Most Obed't Serv't.

[G. C.]

The Hon'ble Genl. Conway.

I was made very happy in being informed that Major Barber the son of a particular Friend of mine was one of your Family. I hope he is likely to continue with you & merrit your good Oppinion. I think he has a Military Turn & wish him a continuance the Opportunity of improving it under an Experienced Officer.

[No. 1230.]

Thomas Moffat Unable to Supply to General James Clinton a List of the Losses at Clinton and Montgomery.

Blooming Grove, 30th March 1778.

S'r, I Received yours of yesterday and should have attended with Col. Marvin but the circumstances of my family render it rather imprudent for me to be so long from home, as my attendance might require, if it can be avoided, and as I was not in the Highlands when the Forts were taken, my evidence can be of no

real service as I know of, unless it be to give an account of the Number of Men missing out of Col. Allison's Regiment, and that can be assertained better from the Pay rolls now in the Paymasters office at Fishkill, than I can give it, as the officers of the different Companies who were at the Fort and escaped, have according to your orders entered the Names of those missing out of their respective Companies and sworn to their Rolls. If they should be necessary Capt. Bedlow will find them with the Abstract for November last. The Companies that Suffered were Captains, Humphrey, Faulkner, Jansen, Rose and Person. I forgot to take an account of the missing from the Rolls last fall when I carried in the abstract, but I believe there was about 40 Non commissioned officers and Privates with the Col., Lieut. Col. two Captains and two Subalterns. If my Attendance should be absolutely Necessary send an Express for me and I will pay him. I am in haste Your most obedient and very Hum'e Ser't

Thomas Moffat.

To Brig'r Gen'l James Clinton now at Fish Kill.

[No. [illegible]]

Generous Contribution from Charleston, South Carolina, for the Sufferers at Kingston.

Charles Town 31st March 1778.

Sir, I do myself the Pleasure to send you herewith the sum of [illegible] equal to [illegible] N. York Currency. This money [illegible] for the Charitable purpose of alleviateing the [illegible] the now indigent inhabitants of the Town of Kingston [illegible] to poverty and [illegible] sum would have been collected had not a [illegible] immediate attention of many

liberal Souls to dissipate the wants of many of the Inhabitants of the Capitol of this State who are reduced to beggary to the late Dreadful Conflagration.

From a Personal acquaintence with your Excellency I persuade myself you will readily excuse the trouble I give in requesting your attention to a proper distribution of this donation. I have the Pleasure to be with sentiments of Esteem & respect.

Your Most Obedient Hum'e Ser't

Abr'm Livingston.

His Excellency George Clinton.

[No. 1232.]

Plan for Organizing the Infantry.

.....?

Establishment of the Infantry of the American Army.

That each Battallion shall consist of nine Companies of which one shall be of light Infantry to be kept complete by Drafts from the Battallion and organized during the Campaign into Corps of light Troops.

	Number	Rank
Each of the Field Officers to command a Company and Lieut. of the Col's Co. to have the Rank of Capt'n.	1	Colonel
	1	Lt. Colonel
	1	Major
	6	Captains
	1	Captain Lt. of Colo's Com'y
	8	Lieutenants
	9	Ensigns
These Officers to be taken from the Line the Paymaster chosen by the Corps the others app'd on Recom'n of Field Officers from among the Subalterns.		Paymaster
		Adjutant
		Qu'r Master
	1	Surgeon
	1	Mate
	29	Comm'd Officers.

Whenever a Regt. shall become vacant by the Promotion the Resignation or the Death of a Colonel the Lieut. Colo. to take the Command but no Promotion to be made in the Regt. so that in time there will be but two Field Officers to a Regt.

By the within Arrangement you will perceive Sir that the Staff are to be taken from the Line. Some Good Staff Officers would have been excluded by this Regulation if we had not adopted the Expedient in such Cases of giving them a Commission in the Line consistent with their Staff Appointment.

[No. 1233.]

The Cherry Valley Committee Appeals to Lafayette for Protection.

Sir, When we had the Honor of waiting on your Excellency and Inform'd you of our defenceless situation, you was pleased to Promise us your very Friendly Assistance by sending up to our Settlement some of the Continental Troops, as we told your Excellency there was a number of Friends that was ready to help and Assist in defence of their Rights and Priviledges; but our Number is not able to repel any Considerable Force that may come against us which we have great reason to Expect when ever the Enemy comes, as we have reason to think will be the case by the Intelligence we have received from Friends from Time to Time and shall with our Lives Act in Conjunction with the Troops as far as we are able.

Therefore, we humbly beg your Excellency will be pleased to think on our defenceless situation and as soon as your Excellency can with Propriety send the Troops up to us, shall Act in Conjunction with them as we are in dread every Night of being Attacked by the Enemy.

Several Families has already left the Settlement and many more will leave it without some Assistance is sent us speedily that may enable us to make a stand and hope by the Blessing of God to preserve our Settlement from the merciless Ravages of a Savage Enemy.

On Saturday the 28th Two Men on whose Veracity we can Depend came and told us that two Friendly Indians came and warn'd them to leave their Places as the Enemy would be very soon in their Parts.

Another thing we have to lay before your Excellency is the Want of Arms and Ammunition as many of our Men lost them when they was wounded in the Battle at Arescu [Oriskany].

We shall not intrude on your Excellency's Time but referr you to the Bearer hereof who will inform your Excellency of any other matters relative to the State of this Settlement. And humbly hope your Excellency will be pleased to favour us with a Line what Time we may Expect the Troops up and beg leave to Subscribe ourselves Your Excellency's most Obedient Humble Servants

James Willson
Sam'l Campbell
Sam'l Clyde.

Cherry Vally March 31st 1778.

To His Excellency Genl. Lefflat.

[No. 1234.]

Gen. Conway to Col. Gay—Instructions for bringing to Albany the cannon left by the British at Ticonderoga—With an extract from a letter of the 27th of January last, from Gen. Gates, President of the Board of War.

MISSING.

[No. 1235.]

The Westchester Committee Requests the Exchange of a Prisoner.

To his Excellency George Clinton, Esqr. Governor of the State of New York, General and Commander in Chief of all the Melitia, and Admiral of the Navy of the same.

May it please your excellency,

The Committe who represent the Inhabitants of West Chester County, this day rec'd a Letter from Major General Lee (a prisoner of ours in the hands of the troops of the King of Great Britain) by the hand of Nehemiah Marshal who has come to us from the above said enemy, and was taken by them some time since, has upon the Credit of General Lee, who gave his word and Honor, for his return to New York unless an Exchange might be made between said Marshall and one Isaac Gedney of Ryeneck in this County. Which above said Letter from the General recommended the afforesaid change advisable. Informing us that Gedney was Confined at Hartford.

This Committee being of opinion after Considering the matter that such exchanges lay within your Excellency's Jurisdiction, do hereby refer the same to your own disposal.

I am by order of the above Committee your Excellency's obedient Servant,

Ab'm Leggett Chairman.

Bedford 1st April 1778.

After the within was wrote the Committee tho't best to enclose to your Excellency the General's Letter.

[No. 1236.]

A Private Account for Wheat.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor,

To James Jackson Jur. Dr.

To 5000 Bll. Wheat a 6/ Pr Bll	£1500—0—0
To Storage & Fraight to ye mill a 30/ Pr Ct.	75—0—0
	1575—0—0
Cr.	
By Cash at three Different Times	1500—0—0
	£ 75—0—0

Errors Excepted

Pr James Jackson Jur.

Aprile 1st 1778.

Sir, Agreeable to Your Request I have here Drawn out the Acc't Between you & me which I Think is Just. I am Sir with Respect Your Verry Hum'le Serv't

James Jackson Jun'r.

[Note by G. C. "The Am't sent to Com'y Paulding 17th Apl. 1778."]

[No. 1237.]

AN ALLEGED BRITISH PLOT REVEALED.

Necessity for Transferring British Prisoners from Albany—Operations in the Highlands.

Albany 1st April 1778.

Sir, Inclos'd you'll find papers just now Deliver'd to me by the Committee of this place, although one of these papers is anonymous, I Do not think that any precaution should be neglected. I have confin'd the prisonners of war now in this town to their quarters. I am Convinc'd that they have Done much mischief

and in spite of our precautions will Do more if they are not speedily remov'd. I Could wish your Excellency would gett them remov'd as soon as possible, as well as Doctor McNamara Hay, the British Physician. The sooner I gett your Directions and general McDoughall's upon that head the Better.

The troops in this quarter have receiv'd orders from Marquis De Lafayette agreeable to the Directions of General Washington to march to the High Lands. They are getting readdy and I will send them Down as soon as you or General McDoughall Direct.

The Regiments order'd Down by General Washington are Coll. James Levingston's stationn'd at Johnstown, Coll. Vanschayk's at Schonectady and a part of it at Saratoga, Coll. Hazen's in this town. I wrote to general MacDoughall in order that quarters should be readdy for these Regiments when he will Direct them to march to the High Lands.

General Gates writes to the Marquis that I will receive orders to goe to the High Lands. I wait these orders with much impatience being fully persuaded that the ennemy will soon make some attempt upon the North river Very early. I am sorry to see that Both sides of the Mohawk river, the German Flatts and all the upper country from this to fort Schuyler is Left Bare.

I suppose your Excellency will provide in concert with general MacDoughall for the safety of these places.

I should be Very happy to hear as soon as possible from you and General MacDoughall. I am sir, Your Excellency's Most Obed't Servant

Th's Conway.

Albany Committee Chamber, 1st April 1778.

Sir, A few days ago the Committee rec'd information that two Persons had passed this City, and that one of them had lately come out of New York. Upon this information they dispatched a couple of Persons in pursuit of them, who were fortunate enough to apprehend them, but in the night the principal one, Gilead Bettiss, made his escape the other Daniel Bass, who says he lives in Fredericksburgh in Dutchess County, they secured and delivered to the Committee, and upon examination nothing could be extorted from him but that Bettiss had lately come out of New York, offered to enlist three Persons in his presence and had informed him that the Enemy would come up the River in about three weeks time. After a long examination he was put in Irons and confined. Some little time after his Confinement James Hart, a Prisoner requested to be brought before the Committee who upon his appearance gave the information of which No. 1 enclosed is a copy.

Early this Morning a Letter was found at Mr. Beeckman's Stoop in this City, of which No. 2 is a Copy. As this Corresponds with a Letter formerly found in the same manner, and as seven Negroes have lately been detected who had Combined to go off to the Enemy at a day already past, the Committee are enclined to think that there is some foundation in the hints thrown out, but they are at a loss to conceive why the authors of these Letters do not come forth and give their information Personally.

General Conway has been furnished with Copy of the last Letter, and has been requested to Confine the Brittish Officers to their Rooms, the Soldiers to the Fort and to order the Guards to keep a good look out.

The Committee wish your Excellency would favour them with your Opinion and directions on this matter as soon as Convenient.

The information above mentioned induces the Committee again to suggest to your Excellency the propriety of having the Brittish Hospital and Prisoners together with the Tory Prisoners (of which upwards of one hundred are Confined) removed to one of the Eastern States. I am Your Excellency's Most Obt. & Very humble Serv't By order

John M. Beeckman, Chairman P. T.

To His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

No. 1.

James Hart being ex'd says, That seeing a Person brought in Goal, in Irons, induced him to ask where he came from, and what his name, That he was answered his Name was Daniel Bass that he lived near Croten's and had come up with one Gilead Bettiss, who was lately come out of New York, That after some Conversation Bass told the Examinant that said Bettiss was sent out by Genl. Clinton and Gov'r Tryon to warn the Tories and especially those of the Manor of Livingston; that he was also to enquire how deep the Snow was up the Mohawk River and whether the Indians could come out, and that Bettiss had also told him that the Tories were to rise on the 14th of April next, and disarm as many of the Whigs as they could, That the Row Galleys and Gun Boats were to come up at the same time as far as the Manor, where they were to stop to receive the Tories on Board, and then to come up to Albany, and if the Snow was yet too deep on the 14th they were to postpone their operations till the 24th as they did not chuse to Venture till such Time as

Butler might have an oppertunity to Cooperate with them with the Indians. That Butler was to take his Route thro' Schoharry. That the said Bass farther informed the examinant that Bettiss was to go to Schoharry and the German Flatts after which he was to return to New York, to give an account of his proceedings and that Bettiss had a Captain's Commission and had offered to enlist People as he came up.

Albany in Committee 31st March 1778.

No. 2

Time draws near; look out; trouble is nigh, mind your Torris Brittish officers Soldiers and Negros; your Stores are in danger; your City also look out for; you may be assured that now in a few days you will expeirence it unless you look out very well in the first place secure your Brittish officers and Soldiers, your Princable Torris; great Sums of money has been sent to your City, to your Country last fall and this winter by Tryon and Clinton; your Flags have not been of much Service, surely did you Search them; no, for no Body did to my knowledge, some time paste I wrote to a friend of mine, and did mention names But nothing is done. I suppose my friend was as many in your Service. I shall mention no names. My life should be in Dangour; and now I have an oppurtunity to know both Sides and as I have been Concerned in the Brittish Service in putting a wicked Plot into execution which my Conscience not allow'd me, induces me to warn you; for in a few days the whole Contest may be put to an end; if it was not to be hindred, a reward I do expect if by my means you save your Country, which I will be able to prove; if you are successfull by Calling for my Letters which you will keep; it was not long ago since I lef Genl. Howe, me

army is not very Numorous; he means to destroy Philad'a and Send all his force to your River and to the Eastward and the Indians will come down on your Frontiers; you may Perhaps take many that will declare themselves innocent; they will offer to Swear, no oath must be taken of a Man that is not for your Country for they think it not Legal. I was to take any oath that any Rebel were to offer to me. I have had a great sum of money to undertake a wicked plan which I hope to Convince you with when I call for my Letters. Wee find out, that we Cannot Conquer you with fair means; now no time or money or lives will be Spared to do it, for always you will find Men to execute them; pray look out, for no time ought to be lost. Hand and hand, Stand by each other, now or never, I am of no Small Ranck in the Brittish Service; no dare I to return; my life is at Stake with yours for not doing which I did undertake to do with many of your own Contrymen. Favour no man, nor Friend if you mean to Stand, or you soon will fall, which advice please to take from your wellwisher.

O. E.

[No. 1238.]

The Garrison and Defenses at Paulus Hook.

1st Apl. 1778.

Ebenezer Raymon Deserted from Capt. Kain's Comp'y, Colo. Turnbull's Regt. New Levies on Saturday last. They Garrisson the Port at Paulus Hook & Consist of ab't 300 Men. The whole Point is picketted in. There is a Redoubt on the Hill above Van Voort's House with six Pieces of Artillery in it; 3 Block Houses within Muskett Shott of each other; one at the Causway leading off the Hook, one at the Southwest Corner & the other in the Northeast Corner of the Hook.

There is a small Guard House in the Fort & a Guard of a Corporal & Six in it every Night. The Troops lay in the Barn which is fitted up for Barracks & in the South End of Van Vort's House. 17 Men lays Nightly in each of the two latter Block Houses. The Guard which is 18 Men under a Serjeant occupies the Block House by the Causeway. The Picquet Guard a Sub & 30 lays at Kennedy's House & the advanced Centry stands at Priors Mill 2 Centries at Cuypen Bridge none higher up. 10 Centries are kep by Night but none so far advanced as the above. One Centry stands on the Point towards Communipaw. Raymond lived at Cortlandts Manor went to the Enemy last July was advised Away by Husten & Travis.

[No. 1239.]

SHIFTING TROOPS FROM ALBANY TO THE HIGHLANDS.

General Conway Thinks he is Better Fitted for the Field—Praises McDougall—Fears he Will be Deceived.

Albany 2d April 1778.

Sir, I am honor'd with your favour of the 30th March. I will communicate your letter to General Tenbrook respecting the militia. I have directed Coll. Lewis, to have sloops readdy for carrying the Troops, when they will be order'd down by General McDoughall. I have also directed the commanders of Regiments, to send their most active and diligent officers, in order to collect as soon as possible the men upon furlough.

It is not Nixon's Brigade that is now stationn'd at Farmington, but Coll. Nixon's Regt., belonging to General Nixon's brigade. I suppose General McDoughall will give orders for said Regiment to proceed to West Point.

In Consequence of an application made to me by Coll. Gay,

who produc'd to me a letter from the Board of War, I had order'd last week, Coll. Warner's Regt. from Benington to Sarratoga, for the purpose of helping to save the cannon abbandonn'd by the Enemy. I inclose to you the extract of the letter of General Gates and the orders I have given in consequence, before I had learn't General McDoughall's arrival. I wish your Excellency would let me know, if you approve of the measure.

I am very happy to learn the arrival of General McDoughall. I do not pretend to be a judge, but he allways appear'd to me, one of the best heads in the army. I am very impatient to join him as soon as possible. I am much honor'd and flatter'd with whatever employment, Congress pleases to confer on me. but as I am a foreigner and not acquainted with the dispositions of the inhabitants of this country, I am afraid of being deceiv'd, and led unawares into measures contrary to the good of the service. I think myself more calculated to command troops in the field and to train them up to the campaign duty.

I mentionn'd to General McDoughall the necessity of providing Quarters bellow for Hazen's, Vanschoyck's and Levingston's as I understand that they have no tents, I can not help repeating to your Excellency that nothing will be left between this and fort Schuyler all that country remains open'd for the Indians and for the attempts of the Ennemy. I am with Respect Your Excellency's Most obed't Servant

Th's Conway.

P. S. Major Barber is not with me. I had recommended him to the majority of Coll. Spencer's regiment his Brother in law, for whom I have also the greatest regard.

I would be very happy to have Major Barber with me; he is an exact, Zealous understanding officer; he has a military turn, and has train'd his regiment very well.

I just now receive a letter from Lt. Coll. Safford of Warner's regiment, mentionning that he wants one hundred and twenty arms and accoutrements, although by his return of provisions, I find he does not draw for more than one hundred and forty nine men.

[No. 1240.]

A DIFFERENCE OVER HORSES.

During Which Colonel Wisner Writes a Caustic Epistle to Assistant Quartermaster-General Taylor.

Hannover 2d April 1778.

Honoured S'r, Last summer, when you arived from Fort Montgomery I was at your House. I reported to you that I, by Order of Colo'l Hughs, had sent, for the Horses taken up by Major Wiesner, and his party, which was found in the hands of Tories, winter was a Year, on their way to the Enemy, I also shewed you the aprisement of said Horses, after some Recolection, you thought you had seen an aprisement of the same Horses, before of a prior Date to that I shewed you, and that, it Rune in your mind the aprisements Considerably Differed, you Desired I should take particular care of the papers, and not to pay Major Wiesner till I acquainted you. I have the papers still, and has not Booked them, till I had farther Orders from you, neither have I paid any money on them. I also sent the Horses with a Coppy of the aprisements to Colo'l Hughs, at Fish Kill as the Tennor of his Letter Directed, Viz.

31st May 1777. Colo'l Hathorne tells me that there are several Horses which were taken going to the Enemy last fall or winter, that are not yet Disposed of, on your side of the River, I be you will make inquiry as the Colo'l is Certain they are the

somewhere, I imagin near him, but, am not Clear in it,—if you find any, let them be Valued, and send them here, as they are greatly in want of Horses at Peeks Kill &c. Observe to take an Exact account of them their Value &c.

Signed Hugh Hughs D. Q. M. G.

This Bill should Been paid some time ago as it is now one of the oldest I have. I will take the first Opportunity to see your Excellency, with the aprisement, and pay the money as you shall Order, as I was at that time under your Direction. Maj. Wiesner has been several times with me for the money, and also sent me some threatening Letters the last I think I am in Duty Bound, to send your Excellency a Coppy, of, viz.

Warwick April 29th 1778.

D'r S'r,

My Compliments to you, and at the same time I would inform you that I have Been to his Excellency the Governour to see what step I was best to take to Recover the money for those Horses you Received of me, and the Governour said that they Belonged to the state, and I must be accountable to the state for them when ever Called upon, and that you had no Bussiness with said Horses, and that I could get a write for you and sue you at a Civiel Action which I determin to do; so think not strange, for if you dont send the money to me Verey soon I shurely will have a write for you and if I begin, it will not be the last Horse you will be Oblidge to give account for.

Signed Henry Wiesner Lt. Col.

I make no Doubt but your Excellency has heard that I have got much hurt by falling in a fit. I was Greatly Bruised in my Body and neck, the one side of my face cutt in several places, and will be considerably Disfigured. I Recover as fast as can be expected,

and hopes in less than a week to see your Excellency. I am with the utmost Esteem your Excell's M't Obt. Humble servant,

And'w Taylor, D. Q. M. G.

Gov'r Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1241.]

Colonel Wynkoop Reports on the Building of Gunboats at Coeymans.

Coyemans 2nd Aprill 1778.

Dear Gov'r, I have Sent Down to the West Point Three Sloops Loaded with Boards & Four about Half Loaded which Latter have also taken Colo. Putmen's Regiment. I will also Send Down one Sloop Loaded with Timber for Barricks from this Place. I Sho'd have Sent Down more Boards but Could git no more Sloops fit for that Purpose for a Number of them have Suffer'd much by the Ice in brakeing up of the River but will Send them as Soon as thay are Repair'd. I have Detain'd one Sloop in Albany to take Down Canon; as Soon as I Receive Your Orders shall send Her Down. I have about 50 Carpenters at work here, a Building Boats of Forty Foot Keel & Sixteen Foot Wide. I Sh'd be Glead to know the Gove'rs Pleasure Concerning said Boats whether I must send em Down as soon as they are Built or whare & also be Glead if a Few Ship Carpenters Could be obtain'd & Sent up here. I have also Sent Down a Number of Wheel Barrows. I Remain Your moust Humble Sarv't

Cornelius D. Wynkoop.

P. S. Please to Remamber me Mrs. Clinton en Except of the Same your Selfe.

For His Excellency Governor Clinton at Pokeepsie.

[No. 1242.]

Lafayette's Efforts to Win the Indians.

Fort Schuyler 2d April 1778.

Honord Sir, With this you have a State of this Garris, with a return of the Ordinance Stores wanting to Compleat the ordinance here.

The Regiment is exceeding bad of for Clothing, in particular shirts & Shoes, which render us unable to carry on the Works Necessary to be done at this place, which may be attended with bad Consequences.

Marquis Le Feiatt has sent an Engineer to the Onida Castle with a Speech to the Onidas & Tuscarorars previous to a promise they made him at the Treaty at Johnston, inviting 300 of their young Warriors to come down to Albany & Join him, which if they do, he means with them to Join Genl. Washington, as soon as Possible;—by a Letter from the Engineer to Col. Willett yesterday, he informs him that Indians are Determind to join the Marquis, as soon as a Small Piquet Fort is Compleated which he is now at work upon at Onida to secure the families of those & the other Indians who stay behind, in case the Senecas shou'd make any attempts against them,—there is 200 of this County Militia to go to Ondia in a few days to help to build the Fort, which will enable the Indians to go down soon.

Shou'd the Marquis be able to get the Indians down as far as Head Quarters, it is thought it may Answe some good purposes, especially in ambushing the Enemies Forraging Parties, and stop them in some measure from committing so many Depreditions in the Country,— my best respects to Mrs. Clinton & Doct'r Tappan & his Wife, & am with due Respect your very Affectionate Humble Serv't

Geo. I. Denniston.

George Clinton Esqr.

Lafayette

ORDNANCE & ORDNANCE STORES

Cannon						Royals			Carriages								Round Shot						Canister Shot						Canister Shot fix'd with Flannel Cartridges						Grape Shot						Wadds						Barrels of Powder	Flints
Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Caliber	Number	Total		
9	3	6	4	3	4	11	42	4	4	3	4	4	9	3	6	4	7	9	164	6	1934	3	147	2245	9	4	6	11	3	16	31	9	72	6	75	3	246	393	9	89	6	59	148	9	200	6	220	3	200	620	37	3000

Paper Catridges filled							Empty Paper Catridges							Hand Spikes							Spunges						Ladles							Wadd Hooks							Caps for Spunges							Musquet Catridges
Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Total	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	
9	110	6	187	3	133	450	9	125	6	260	3	70	455	9	16	6	16	3	8	40	9	3	6	5	3	14	9	1	6	3	3	4	8	9	2	6	4	3	4	10	9	3	6	5	3	6	14	14000

Aprons for Cannon							Priming Wires							Tompkins							Lind Stocks							Tubes					Tube Boxes							Trail Spikes	Port fire Stock	Doz. Port fires	Dredg Boxes	Pinchers	Hammers	Gimblets	Setts of drag Rope for 3 pounders	Haversacks	Coils of Slow Match	Shell for Royals	Reams Cartridge paper	Spare wheels for 9 lb Carriage	Spare Carriages for 2 pounders	Damag'd Traveling Carriges 6 pounder	Gun
Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total																
9	3	6	4	3	4	11	9	3	6	3	3	2	8	9	3	6	4	3	4	11	9	4	6	6	3	2	12	6	30	3	330	360	9	1	6	3	3	4	8	4	8	3	1	1	1	2	4	—	12	127	10	1	1	1	1

Q r Master Genl. & Engineers Stores	
Gin Rope	1
Setts Mens Harness	1
Setts of Horse Harness	1
Coils New Rope	1
Hair Cloths	2
Oyl Cloths	20
Boxes of Musquet Bals	63
Powder Horns	10
Picks	200
Bill Hooks	106
Crosscut Saws	6
Whip Saws	7
Iron Wedges	6
Frows	3
Axes fit for Service	76
Broad A[illegible]es [illegible]t for Service	16
Barrs of Steel	15
Barrs of Iron	12
Casks of Nails	2
Casks of spikes	1
Chests of Carpenters Tools	1
Seets of Black Smiths Tools	1
Grind Stones	1
Crow Barrs	
Gimbletts	10
Waggon	
Graplings	3
Barr'ls of Tarr	2
Iron Squares	8
Adzes	4

Artifices	Soldiers	Not Soldiers
Brick makers	6	
Black Smiths	2	
Armourers	2	
Coopers		2
Carpenters		11
Sawyers		6

Comissarys Stores	
Flour	493
Pork	164
Beef	169
Salt	32
Indian Meal	1
Soft Soap	5½
Hand Soap	5
Candles	4
Hhds. Rum	6½
Tierces of Rice	4½
Bushels of Pease	90

ARTILLERY

Detatchment of Colonel Lamb's Battalion

	Capt. Lieut.	2d Lieutenant	Sergeants	Corporals	Bombardiers	Gunners	Drummers	Matrosses	Total
Present fit for duty	1	1	3	3	3	3	1	15	30
On Command	..	..	...	...	..	...	...	1	1
On Furlough........	..	..	...	...	..	...	...	1	1
Total	1	1	3	3	3	3	1	17	32

INFANTRY

Third New York Battalion Commanded by Peter Gansevoort Esquire

Officers Present: Commissioned: Lieut. Col.	Major	Captains	1st Lieutenants	2 Lieutenants	Ensigns	Staff: Adjutant	Q'r Master	Surgeon	Surgeon's Mate	Pay Master	Non Com's: Sergeants	Drum's and Files
1	..	4	5	4	8		1	1	1	..	23	12

Effective Rank and file: Present fit for Duty	Sick in Quarters	Sick in Garrison Hospital	Sick in Genl. Hospital	On Command	On Furlough	Total
318	22	8	12	14	9	383

Major Cochran on Furlough untill 15th Instant.
Capt. Bunschoten gon to Poughkeepsie to resign.
Capt. Swartwout on Furlough untill this day.
Capt Bleeker on Command.
Capt. Gregg gone home Wounds.
Lieut. Ball by permission gone to resign.
Lieut. Bogart on Furlough untill the 7t last Month.
Lieut. Conine on Furlough untill this day.
Lieut. McClellan Recruiting.
Lieut. Yeomans on Furlough untill this day.
Lieut. Bowen on Furlough till 7th May next.
Lieut Ostrander Do do
Adjutant Sytez on Command to Onida
Jeremiah v. Ransselaer on Pay Master on Command to Albany.

Serjt Maj'r & Fife Maj'r present Q'r M'r serjt on Furloug, Drum Major on Comman 3 Serjts on Furlough 1 Serjt. Sick in Garrison. 1 Serjt Prisoner in Albany. 2 Fifes on Furlough 4 Privates Prisoners with the Enemy, all of all Col. Gansevoort's Regt. not mentioned in the above Return
N B. Ast. Q'r M'r Genl. Conductor of Ordinance Stores & an Engineer wanting at this Fort.

ORDNANCE STORES WANTING.

Spunges	9	Caliber
	2	Number
	6	Caliber
	4	Number
	3	Caliber
	2	Number
	9	Caliber
Gimblets	9	Caliber
	3	Number
	6	Caliber
	4	Number
	3	Caliber
	2	Number
	9	Total
Tubes	9	Caliber
	300	Number
	6	Caliber
	400	Number
	3	Caliber
	200	Number
	900	Total
Ladles	9	Caliber
	2	Number
	6	Caliber
	1	Number
	3	Total
	9	Caliber
	5400	Number
	6	Caliber
	8400	Number
	3	Caliber
	200	Number
	9000	Total
	9	Caliber
	300	Number
	6	Caliber
	400	Number
	3	Caliber
	200	Number
	900	Total
	9	Caliber
	3	Number
	6	Caliber
	4	Number
	3	Caliber
	2	Number
	9	Total
	9	Caliber
	2000	Number
	9	Caliber
	1000	Number
	3000	Total
Wad Hooks	9	Caliber
	2	Number
	9	Caliber
	1	Number
	2	Total
Empty Paper Cartridges	9	Caliber
	270	Number
	9	Caliber
	270	Number
	540	Total
	2	Hammers
	3	Pinchers
	4	Haversacks
	4	Tube boxes
	1000	Shells for Royals 4½
	1300	Tubes for Royals
	1300	Fuses for Royals
	9	Doz'n Port Fires
	1	Coils of Slow Match
	1	Reams Paper
	4	Caps for Royals
	1	Pieces of Canvass for Quill Grape Shott
	12	Hanks of Mackrell Line
	1	Yards of Flanel for Grape Shott
	1	Pair of Hand Bellowses
	17	Hanks of Twine
	9	Caliber
	500	Number
	9	Caliber
	500	Number
	1000	Total
	9	Caliber
	200	Number
	9	Caliber
	200	Number
	400	Total

[No. 1243.]

Everything Serene at West Point.

West Point April 3d 1778.

Dear Sir, I was yesterday at Bloominggrove and had a Conference with Capt. Woodhull about Sending his lighthorsemen to work their turn at this place; he is very willing to Come; But Says he finds some Dificulty in giting his men out and Desired me to Beg your Excellency to write him a Single line Requireing him to attend with his men which he Says will inable him to git them out without any Dificulty. Your Complyance will greatly Your Excellencys obedient Humble Servant

Henry Wisner.

P. S. Things goe on well here; Should Be glad to See your Excellency here as Soon as posable.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esq. Governor and Commander in Chief of the State of New York.

[No. 1244.]

Much Confusion in Pay Rolls.

Dear Sir, Major Newkirk has been with me with Several Pay abstracts for Colo. McClagery's Regiment, some of them for Service before I came into the pay office; as such it is proper I should have some Certificate that pay for that Time has not been received from any other office. The Rations due to the Regiment for said Time I cannot pay, as Colo. Wigglesworth Informs me Colo. Palfrey pays none before the 10th June 1777. The Capts. Pay Rolls must be drawn over again as they do not Exspress the Time of Service commencing and ending at the Head, how many days allowed for return Home. Instead of this some have in a Colum mileage out & Home, some Mileage on Scraps

of paper; in this State I cannot take on me to sign them as Examined by me, neither will Genl. McDugall sign a warrent for payment in their present Cituation. I have persuaded the Major to leave the pay Rolls with me and to wait on your Excellency to get such a Certificate on the Pay Abstracts as may Inable this Office by Warrent from General McDugall to pay them; perhaps you can do it so full as to serve without Genl. Putnam's Certificate, as I am afraid he will be gone before the Major returns and his papers put in proper order. I am In Hast with Great Respect Your Excellency's most Humb'e Ser'vt

William Bedlow.

Pay Office Aprill 4th 1778.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State New York &c., Poughkeepsie.

[No. 1245.]

SETH WARNER'S "STRANGE REGIMENT."

Carelessness in Handling the Cannon Captured at Saratoga—The Situation at Albany—The Country from Albany to Fort Schuyler Unprotected.

Albany 4th April 1778.

Sir, General Ten Brook to whom I have shew'd your Letter intends to Dismiss the four months militia as soon as some of the parties sent towards fort Anne return and Deliver the arms which they have receiv'd from this store for a temporary use only was the militia Dismiss'd sooner the arms would undoubtedly be Lost.

The Detachment of Coll. Vanschayk's Regiment now at Saratoga being under marching orders to join its Regiment Destin'd for the Highlands, I had order'd Coll. Warner's Regiment to Saratoga to the purpose of saving the Cannon Left at or near

Tyconderoga, but Coll. Warner's Regiment Calls for more arms than they have men fitt for Duty. The Commander of said Regiment has in contempt of the resolves of Congress order'd and Drawn a Double ration of Victuals for his men. I am assur'd by the Deputy muster master of this town that Warner's Regiment was Compleatly armed Last year at Tyconderoga by General St. Clair's orders; that Regiment was fully arm'd Last October; now they have not a single firelock. There is a very small quantity of arms fitt for service in this store, and these are order'd to the southern army. If I issued arms to Warner's Regiment, they Certainly would be Lost as no Dependance can be plac'd in that very Strange Regiment, I cannot find means of Saving the cannon at Tyconderoga. That matter should have been thought of two or three months ago. Coll. Hay and Major Stephens tell me that in supposing that said cannons might be sav'd, they could not be convey'd here, stock'd, and then fix'd in the Batterys at West Point before the Latter end of June next.

When Hazen's Regiment marches from this place, the Garrison will be compos'd of Greaton's and Alden's Regiments, not amounting in the whole to three hundred men; these are hardly sufficient to guard the British, Hessian, Canadian, and tory prisonners, and to protect the artillery and provision stores; therefore under the present Circumstances I Do not think it prudent to Detach any part of Greaton's or Alden's Regiment towards Tyconderoga without your farther Directions.

Considering the Dispositions of the inhabitants in this Neighbourhood and the anxietys not altogether ungrounded of the Committee, I Should imagine that not one moment's time should be Lost in removing all prisonners from this place, I Shall be happy in receiving your Directions and those of General McDoughal upon that very urgent article.

I inclose to your Excellency a Letter from Coll. Gansewort. I Begg pardon for repeating, that when the Regiments of Levingston, Vanschayk and Hazen will be stationn'd at the High Lands all the country from this to fort Schuyler will be Left uncover'd. I am with Respect Your Excellency's Most obed't servant,

Th's Conway.

[To Governor George Clinton.]

[No. 1247.]*

Peter Gansevoort Recommends Reinforcement for Fort Schuyler.

Sir, From the return of the Garrison of Fort Schuyler furnished you this Morning you will perceive the number of Troops there, which is not half sufficient to man the intarnal works, tho' I conceive that four Hundred Men in addition to those already there, might be sufficient to hold the Fort if well supplied.

There is at present but half a Company of Artillery at the Fort, I beg that I may have a full Company Commanded by a good active and Experienced officer.

Johnstown and Fort Dayton have hitherto been Garrison'd—Col. Livingston's Regiment being Ordered down Leave those places without Troops.

I submit to you the Necessity of having the reinforcements intended for Fort Schuyler to protect the Inhabitants of Tryon County as to march to the relief of the Fort when I shall see cause to order them. They are not wanted at the Fort untill the Enemy approach and it will be less expensive to supply them with provisions at those places than at Fort Schuyler and they serve as Guards upon the Communication for the supplies to the Fort. This is the plan which was pursued last Campaign. I am

* The purpose in transferring this document from the position assigned to it by the Editor of the MSS. is apparent—STATE HISTORIAN.

S'r with Sentiments of the greatest respect Your very Hum'e Servant

Peter Gansevoort.

Albany 4th April 1778.

The Hon'ble Major Genl. Conway.

[No. 1246.]

A Dash of Civil Affairs.

Albany 4th April 1778.

Sir, I am to acknowledge the Receipt of your Excellency's Letter of the 23rd March last, and a Packet containing the Commissions, of the Peace, of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas, of Judge Douw, and the Dedimus Protestatum [Potestatem].

Your Excellency may rest assured that I shall pay all possible attention in fôrwarding the Qualification of the Civil Officers.

I have shewn the Commissions to some of the Judges, who are anxious to see the act "further to organize the Government of this State" previous to their Qualification. I wish therefore your Excellency would forward the same as soon as Convenient. I am with the greatest Respect Your Excellency's Most Ob't Serv't

Mat. Visscher.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 1248.]

A Warning Cry from Cherry Valley.

A report made and sign'd by Benjamin Dixon sent to Albany by the Committee of Cherry Valley and adjacent settlements.

Benjamin Dixon asserts that By Credible intelligence on which he may rely, two friendly Indians have warn'd the inhabitants of

Cherry Valley and of the adjacent settlements to move from their plantations if they intend to be free from Danger because the Ennemy will be there in four weeks from the twenty eighth of March; further more said Benjamin Dixon is inform'd that there are about fifteen hundred Indians and tories assembled at Tunendello [Unadilla] on Susquehannah river within about forty miles from Cherry Valley.

Benj'm Dickson.

Albany 4th April 1778.

[No. 1249.]

Governor Clinton Orders Colonel Lasher to Make a Return of All Military Stores.

Poughkeepsiegh April 5" 1778.

Sir, You will without Delay make me a Return of all the Military Stores belonging to this State under your Direction as also of those which have been issued since your appointment. A considerable Quantity of those Stores were lately in the Hands of Mr. Mevins Conductor at Windsor & some were left at Marbletown in that Neighbourhood, those you will receive if you have them not already, and place them in the State Store.

All the Military Stores belonging to the State must be collected together and stored in such Place as you shall think most convenient in the vicinity of the Wallkill as near as possible to the Continental Magazines there as they may in that Case have the Benefit of a Guard without the Necessity of drawing Men from the Militia for that Purpose.

[G. C.]

[To Col. Lasher.]

[No. 1250.]

FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE FRONTIERS.

Correspondence Between General McDougall and Governor Clinton—Ravages of Smallpox.

Fish Kill April 3d 1778.

Dear Sir, Your favor by Colonel Hughes, with Letters from the Committee of Albany, and Major Stevens, with their Inclosures came duly to hand. I have little doubt, of the enemy's intention to pay us a visit, because it will advance their views, and no Season more proper, than before our works, and obstructions are finished. Under this Persuasion, I wrote by the last post, to the Commanding Officer at Albany, to quicken the march of the troops ordered to these posts; with all possible Dispatch. His Excellency advised me, that Van Schaik, Hazen's and Colonel James Livingston regiments were ordered down; which will leave Graton's and Alden's at Albany.

I think it will be expedient to inform the Bay and Connecticut States of our apprehensions, and press for the necessary Succours jointly, and that no time should be lost. If I knew what proportion would be proper to expect, from each, of the 2500, I would prepare my Letters. If you have fixed on any in your Letters to those States, I wish to be advised of it. While we look to other States for Militia, I must press for Assistance from this. You are best acquainted with its ability, and as fully informed of the danger which threatens it, as I am. The State of the Stores, and River will oblidge me to call up Nixon's Regiment from the Purchase. As Albany is in the Northern Department; I have some doubt, whether I am authorized to interfere in it, or give any orders respecting it: I shall however advise the commanding Officer, to remove such Prisoners of war from thence, as are in

Condition to be removed, to a place of more Safety, and those of the Convention of Saratoga to their respective Corps; I shall also give the like advice, respecting all the brass Ordnanance, and Stores, which cannot readily be used for field Defence; as I consider their being at Albany, till the River is secured, exposed to a Coup de Main, and a temptation to the enemy to come up the River; for I know of no object, they can have, but to destroy our Stores, and collect Tories to increase their Strength. As I am totally ignorant of the country at and about Albany, I can give no advice about stationing the troops left there; this must be directed by you and the commanding Officer there.

The two Regiments that remain above, will be sufficient for the purpose you mention, and to guard the Stores: And I have no advice of their being ordered from thence. I think it unsafe to order any of the Iron Ordnance from Albany, till the River is secure.

I have been informed by A. Q. Master of Danbury, that the small Pox, is so near and on the road, from thence to the North River, that it is difficult to get teams to bring supplies for the Army; particularly that a tavern on the Road, a little beyond Fredricksborough, has got seven persons inoculated: Cannot this impediment to the public Service be removed? What Laws have you against inoculation in places exposed to spread the infection? I wish not to interfere with any civil Concerns, but if the Mischief resulting from that Disorder cannot be removed, we may not expect to get men or Provisions from the East. To remove the Fears of the Militia in Case of a Call or Alarm, I have ordered inoculation to cease in the Barracks, and to have them cleansed of the Infection as soon as possible. The Letters inclosed to me, are returned herewith.

Should not the best arrangement be made without delay, to get our Militia out, in Case of an Alarm: I shall order my express for Albany to call on you for any dispatches you may have for that City. If the weather is moderate to morrow, I intend to go to West Point to view the works. I have the honor to be Your humble Servant

Alex'r McDougall.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Poughkeepsie 5th Apl. 1778.

Dear Sir, I am favoured with yours of the third Instant. I am clearly of Oppinion that there shoud be some Force as well on the Western Frontiers as towards the Lakes whether the two Regim'ts left in the Neighbourhood of Albany will be sufficient for the Northern Department [if] this service is taken on or not I am unable to determine but I fear not. I shall, therefore, order the raising of three Companies for that Service one to be stationed on the Northern & the other two on the Western Frontiers. Colo. Graham will wait upon you on his Way to West Chester County, by whose Orders you will perceive that I have directed the raising Six Companies to lay in your Front, 5 on the East & one on the West Side of the River, & I shall most chearfully give you any further aid from the Militia in my Power which you may think proper to require. In my Requisition to Connecticut & Massachusetts for 2500 Men for the Defence of the River I submitted it to them to settle the proportion each was to furnish. A Letter from you backing my Requisition may be of use. The 15 of this Month or sooner if possible was the Time I fixt for the arival of those Troops & I suggested the Propriety of holding a proportion of their most Western Militia in readiness to march.

There is a Law to prohibit Innoculation unless under certain Restrictions but I have not Time to have it Copied for you. It will soon be published & I dare say any Steps you may think adviseable to take in the Interum will give no Offence & Rest assured that any Thing I can do to make your Command Honorable to yourself servicable & safe to the Country will be most chearfully done my D'r Sir,

[G. C.]

[To Gen. McDougall.]

[No. 1251.]

ALARM OVER THE ENEMY'S MOVEMENTS.

To Prepare the Turning Out of the Militia on Both Banks of the Hudson—Need to Impress Teams.

Head Quarters Fish Kill April 5th 1778.

Sir, I received undoubted Intelligence, yesterday, that a Ship and two Gallies of the enemy had appeared in the River, and had come up as far as between Talars Point and Tarry Town. The object of this small squadron, must be to land small parties, to rob the Inhabitants of their Stock, to reconnoitre the state of our works on the River, or to get the best intelligence of our Condition from Tories. I have had no advice to-day from General Parsons. Whatever may be the intention of the enemy, the Militia should be in a State of Readiness in Case of an Alarm. I have directed Colonel Dubois to draw his regiment together at New Windsor, for the Militia on that Side to collect, to the Support of General Parsons at West Point; or to take the enemy in rear, if they should attempt to set down before the works. The General has five Regiments of continental troops with him, which by this day will amount to about 800 Rank and File. The regiment below, and those three coming from Albany, I purpose to

keep on this Side, for the Defence of the Stores and the Country. I think the Militia of Colonel Brinkerhoof, and that to the east of this, should assemble at Fish Kill; there wait orders; and the Poughkepsie Militia, to collect there, for the defence of the town and Gun Boats. I wish to have your opinion on this disposition before the enemy appear in Force on the river. Inclosed you have the Signal of Alarm, which I shall send to the different Posts, mentioned in it. You have herewith a Letter brought here to-day, by a Soldier from Waterbury. The Court of enquiry finished last night: The Business of it prevented my going down to the works yesterday, as I intended to, but shall go to-morrow, if nothing extraordinary prevents. When I return you will be informed of the State of the works. I am Sir, Your humble Servant

Alex'r McDougall.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Sir, Since I wrote the above, I have been honored with your favor of this date. Accept of my sincere thanks for the assurance you are pleased to give me, to render my Command honorable and servicable to the Country: As it is my ardent wish to advance and secure her best interest.

Having determined to remove some of the public Stores at this town; I have examined the late act* of your Legislature, respecting the impressing of Forage and Teams; and find that unless we can obtain a warrant from a Justice of the peace, none of the former can be commanded for the public Service.

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*This was known as the act for regulating impresses of forage and carriages, and for billeting troops within this state. It prohibited the impressing of hay, straw, barley, rye, oats, Indian corn and buckwheat in this state by the commissary or deputy commissary of forage, or by any forage master of the United States. When forage was not accessible by purchase, authority was given to any Justice of the Peace to appoint "discreet and prudent inhabitants of any town, manor, district or precinct," for the purpose of confiscating the quantity of forage necessary. Certificates were to be given *to the owner of the forage* for indemnification.—STATE HISTORIAN.

The difficulty of procuring this article before the act passed, has much embarrassed the Service; and as there are but few, if any Justices qualified, the Tories will not part even with what they can spare; the Consequence I fear will be the disbanding this little army for the want of provisions. In Case of invasion or extraordinary movement, you are authorized to issue warrants for pressing teams: I think the necessity I am under from the State of the Post, to remove some of the Stores is an extraordinary movement; if you should be of this opinion, I beg you to issue a warrant to enable Colonel Hughes to press teams for this purpose. I shall be much obliged to you to inform me whether there is a Commissary of Prisoners appointed by this State. I have this evening, received a Letter from his Excellency the Commander in Chief, on a Subject of importance; on which I am directed to take your and General Parson's opinion. When will it be convenient for you to atend to this Matter? I am Sir,

Your humble Servant

Alex'r McDougall.

Governor Clinton.

[No. 1252.]

CONWAY AND CLINTON IN HEARTY ACCORD.

The Frontier to Be Protected—The Heavy Cannon at Ticonderoga—Warner's Conduct Reprehensible.

Poughkeepsie 6th Apl. 1778.

Sir, I am to acknowledge the Receipts of your Letters* of the 1st & 2d & 4" of Instant with their several Inclosures; the Contents of the former I immediately communicated to General McDougal who I conclude has wrote you his sentiments thereon. I am sensible that by the Removal of Livingston's Regiment (unless their Place is supplied by an equal Number of Men) the

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* See pages 107-112; 113-115; and 124-126.

Western Frontier will be left much exposed. I have therefor ordered two Companies of Militia of sixty Men each, includin non Commissioned Officers to be raised in Tryon County & co tinue in service for one year for the Defence of the Wester Frontier & if two or three Companies of Continental Troops u der active Officers were to join these I am of opinion it wou give great Safety to that Quarter unless the Indians shoud Co mence Hostilities, in which case it woud require a much larg Force. I have also ordered another Company of seventy M to be raised in Charlotte County for the Protection of the I habitants of that County. I am clearly of Opinion that the Br ish Prisoners at and in the Neighbourhood of Albany ought be removed to one of the Eastern States as I am sensible th have done much Mischief where they now are. As commandi Officer in Albany it lies with you to have it done. I can on advise as Governor. I have no Right to interfere, and, as a C tinental Officer, you are my superior. Comm'rs for detect'g Defeating Conspiracies are appointed in Albany whose Busin it will be to take Charge & dispose of the State Prisoners n confined in the Goal there.

I am unhappy to find that there has been such Delay in g ting the heavy Cannon from Ticonderoga; the Number C Gansevoort mentions may I think be allowed in the Lighter Pi for Fort Schuyler but to take the heavy ones now stocked ready for Service would be to leave the River without the n necessary Obstructions to the attempts of the Enemy.

It is not probable that the Enemy will form any Expedi ag't Fort Schuyler early in the Season, but if they make any tempt up the River there are many obvious Reasons to ind them to do it soon; the Garrison at that Post, as it is an Im

tant one, ought to be compleat & well provided; & it is at least probable the heavy Pieces yet behind may be brought on & fixed Time enough for Fort Schuyler, for the River they cannot.

I discovered my Mistake respect'g Nixon's Brigade; soon after I wrote you I found that it was Nixon's Regiment and that they were already to the Southward near Horseneck.

Colo. Warner's Conduct as mentioned by you, as well in Respect to arms for his Regiment as his Drafts for Provisions is very reprehensible and ought not to pass unnoticed. The arms must have been sold and embezzled and double Rations, were they allowed, could not be consumed by the Men. It will not answer to continue that or indeed any other of our Regiments in the Neighbourhood they were raised; it would destroy the best Troops under our best Officers & this Regiment it will render worse than none at all. If Troops are necessary in that Quarter as I suppose they are it will be best to replace this Regmt. by another.

I shall be happy on your Receipt of orders which will place you in this Quarter tho at present I am persuaded your Presence in Albany will be of most infinite service. I have the Honor to be Your most obed. ser.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Conway.]

[No. 1253.]

Three Notorious Felons Recaptured.

Blooming Grove 6th April 1778.

May it Please Your Excellency, I Received the Civil Commissions for this County last thursday Evening but have been unable to do any thing towards qualifying the Majestrates &c. for war of the Act mentioned in the Dedimus Potestatem. I went Goshen yesterday *expecting* to get it there as Col. Nicoll to

me he thought it would be sent down by Mr. Joseph Wood on Saturday last, but as he had not Returned I despatched the Bearrer for it and would be glad the act* for Regulating Elections could Also be sent.

Inclosed your Excellency has the Examination† of three Persons brought to Goshen and confined in Goal yesterday; they were taken by some of the Faithful Inhabitants of this County below the Mountains on Friday last on their way to New York—there was four of them in Company at the Time they were taken; but Peter Dolson who had been confined in Goal Some time ago for Stealing Publick Stores and Private Property was killed by the Persons who took them, Daniel Field, one of those now in Goal was concerned in the Felony and confined with him—they were let out of Goal on Saturday Night of the 29th Ultimo by Matthew Dolson (of Susqueanna) Matthew Dolson (of this County) Benony Drake, William Finton and Anthony Clark in the manner mentioned in their Examinations.

And as they are a Set of notorious villains I leave it with your Excellency to Judge whether it would not be best to have them tried immediately. If they come within the Jurisdiction of a Court Martial it may be shortly determined—but if they are to be kept any considerable time it will be necessary to guard the Goal or in all Probability they will be let out again.

They deny that they know any thing about the other Prisoners but suppose they are gone to the Enemy with Finton and Drake; an officer was sent for Clark last night and I suppose he is now in Custody. I am Your Excellencies most obedient and very Humble Servant

Thomas Moffat.

Governor Clinton.

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*The act to regulate elections within this state, was passed 27th March, 1778.

†Not found.

[No. 1254.]

Coxsackie Exempts Organize a Company of Militia.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State of New York &c.

The petition of the several persons whose names are hereunto subscribed and who have held either civil or military Commissions or are between the ages of fifty and fifty five years and resident within Cocksakie District in the County of Albany:

Humbly Sheweth

That in pursuance of an Act entitled an Act for regulating the Militia of the State of New York your petitioners have entred into an association and chosen our officers to command us as appears in a paper hereunto annexed.

Your petitioners therefore pray that your Excellency will be pleased to grant Commissions to such our officers and your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray &c.

Francis Salisbury
John Dubois
John Rause
John Orr
Barent Ebbertsen
Benj'n X Essex
his mark
Henry Wabber
Nicholas Van Woert
Petter Van Lone
Isach Dubois
Wm. Teller Jun'r
John Bronck
the mark of
Isaac X Teetshorn

Pieter Connyne
the mark of
Henry X Hendricksen
Martin Van Ber Gan
Thunis Van Vechten Jun'r
Thomas Mesick
James Armitage
Jacob Van Loon
Petrus Eghbertson
the mark of
Jacob X Hallenbeck
Huybartus Dubois
Gerardus Nuwkerk
Anderess Agler

We the hereunder Subscribers being persons who have held either civil or military Commissions or are between the ages of fifty and fifty five years and residing within Cocksackie District in the County of Albany in pursuance of a certain act of this State entitled an act for regulating the Militia of the State of New York do hereby associate ourselves and do also severally agree that we will on all occasions obey the orders of our respective Commanding officers: and will in cases of Invasion or Incursions of the Enemy or Insurrections, march to repel the Enemy, or suppress such Insurrection in the like manner as the enrolled Militia are compelled to do: so as that we shall not when called out in Detachments be annexed to any other Regiment or Company, or be under the immediate Command of any other than our own officers. And we have also this day chosen, James Barker for our Captain Abraham Salisbury for our first Lieutenant, Petrus Vanette for our second Lieutenant & Robert Patterson for our Ensign. In witness whereof we have hereunto set our several Hands the Sixth Day of April one thousand seven hundred and seventy nine.*

Jas. Barker	John Bronck
Abraham Salisbury	the mark of
the mark of	Isaac X Teetshorn
Petrus X Vanette	Pieter Connyne
Robt. Patterson	the mark of
Francis Salisbury	Henry Hendrickson
John [illegible]	Martin Van Ber Gan
John Rause	Thomas Van Vechten Jun'r
John [illegible]	Thomas Meslick
[illegible]	James Armitage

[illegible]

enj'n X Essex	Jacob Van Loon
his mark	Petrus Eghbertson
enry Wabber	the mark of
icholas Van Woert	Jacob X Hallenbeck
etter Van Lone	Huybartus Dubois
ach Dubois	Gerardus Nuwkerk
'm. Teller Jun'r	Andress Agler

[No. 1255.]

THE GOVERNOR WITHOUT A CLERK.

His Subordinates all Take a Vacation upon the Adjournment of the Legislature—The Law Relating to Impressments.

Poughkeepsie 6th April 1778.

Dear Sir, I am favoured with your Letters of the 5th Instant. conclude the present Business of the Enemy's Vessels up the River is to amuse us by making Alarms of that kind familiar & of Course disregarded as well as to plunder & Gain Intelligence. This was the Case last year and I hope we have sufficiently learned the Moral that is to be drawn from the Fable of the Shepard & the Wolf and that we wont be found Remiss a Second Time.

I like the Dispositions you have made very well and inclosed you have my Orders to the Militia agreable thereto one Copy whereof you will deliver to Colo. Brinckerhoof, your Landlord, who as eldest Colonel is to transmit Copies immediately to the Commanding Officers of the other Regts. on the East of the River. The other Copy Please to send to my Brother Genl. Clinton, who will make & transmit Copies to the different Regiments on the West Side of the River, as at present I am without a

Single Clerk or Express, all Hands are taking a little Relaxation on the breaking up of the Legislature which they much need.

With Respect to Impresses, on the present Occassion, by perusing the Act with a little Attention, you will find every Difficulty removed, for if it is such an Imergency as woud warrant me to cause Impresses to be made & I think it is; you are in that law vested with the same Power as a Genl. Officer in active Service in the State that I have & I trust you will execute it when warranted by Law.

If I can possibly break out I will wait upon you Tomorrow or next Day at Fishkill. I am Your most Obed't Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

Genl. McDougal.

[No. 1256.]

Receipt for Payment of Hay and Grain.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

To Moses Smith Dr.

1778.

To 71 hundred of Hay at sundry times	10/	£35—10—0
20 Bushels of Grain	10/	10— 0—0
To Cash paid Postage of 4 Letters		5—1
		£45—15—1

Poughkeepsie April 6th 1778.

Rec'd the above Contents.

£45—15—1

Moses Smith.

[No. 1257.]

Governor Clinton Declines to Appoint a Commissary and Gives his Reasons.

Haverstraw April 6th 1778.

Sir, One of the Enemy's Ships of War, and two Row Gallies are now up the River as far as Tallow's Point, and I have ordered out part of the militia who are without Provisions and we know not where to get it for them, I must therefore beg your Excellency will appoint a Commissary and order down by the Bearer a Sum of money to purchase Provisions, I would recommend Mr. Thomas Cregeur a refugee from New York.

I received Mr. Hatfleid's Letter last Night directing me to make a Return of my Regiment, which I shall do without delay. I am Sir Your Excellency's most Obt. Serv't

A. Hawkes Hay.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr., Poughkeepsie.

Poughkeepsie 6th April 1778.

Sir, I cant think of appointing a Commissary for every Detachment of Militia that may be drawn out on the coming up of a Ship & a Galley or two. They must either bring out their own Provissions or submit to the Trouble of drawing their Provission at the next Post. And for this Purpose make regular Returns. You can readilly see the great Expence & trouble that woud accrue from the other Mode of supplying them. I am your most Obed't Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

[To Col. A. Hawkes Hay.]

[No. 1258.]

General Conway Sends the Warning Cry from Cherry Valley to Governor Clinton.

Albany 6th April 1778.

Sir, I have the honour to enclose to your Excellency a petition from the Committee of Cherry Valley* together with the intelligence given by the man who Brought the petition. I add a Copy of the Certificate given to Doctor Hayes the British surgeon who is applying to goe to New Yorck with the invalides it is exceedingly urgent and important to remove the prisonners of war from this place. I will repair to General MacDoughal as soon as I have seen the troops order'd from this quarter on their way. I am with respect Sir Your Excellency's Most obed't Servant

Th's Conway.

[To G. C.]

[No. 1259.]

Commissary Cregier's Account for Provisions Furnished to Captain Johnston's Rangers.

An account of Provisions Deliver'd Capt. Robert Johnston for the use of his Company of rangers belonging to the State of New York with Sundry Expences Arrising in furnishing the Said Company Commencing October ye 18th 1777 and Ending April 7th 1778 Deliverd Pr Thomas Cregier P. Commissary.

To 5302 pounds of Beef at 7d pence Pr Pound	£154—12—10
To 2111 Pounds of Fresh Pork at 1s pr Pound	105—11— 0
To 262½ pounds of Veal at 9d pr Pound	9—16—10
To 198½ Pounds of mutton at 9d pence pr pound	7— 8—10
To 1929 pounds of Flower at 32/ pr hundred	30—16— 0
To 51 Bushell of wheat at 12/ 10d pr Bushell	32—14— 6

* See page 138.

To Salt at Sundry times	£7—10— 0
To Seven Busshell of potatoes	1—15— 0
To fish for Eight men on guard at the North River Side	— 3—
To 15 Loads of fire wood from Mr. Tallman for your guard house	3—15— 0
To a Slay and two horses Sent to New Windsor for Liquer and &c.	4—16— 0
To 5½ Days Drawing fire wood to the guard houses at 2 Dollars pr Day	4— 8— 0
To Serjants Expences going to New Windsor four days for Liquer	1—18— 0
To 3 Sleds bringing Provisions from Totoway	2— 8— 0
To 3 Days horse hire to go to New Windsor	1— 4— 0
To Expences in going to Kings ferry Laid out by Garney Serjt. for salt	—15— 0
To 6 Dinners for Six men guarding Provisions from Totoday	—12—
To a Sled bringing Provisions from Werames one day	—16—
To a half Day sled hire Bringing Provisions	— 8—
To Capt. Johnston's Expences and Sled hire going to New Windsor for powder	3—12— 0
	£375— 0— 0

Robert Johnston Capt.

To five Months and Twenty Days Pay in Purchasing at 40 Dollars pr month	92
	£467— 0— 0

[No. 1260.]

GOVERNOR CLINTON REPORTS TO MR. LAURENS.

He Discusses the Vermont Case—Suggests that the Federal Cause Will Suffer by New York's Protecting Her Own Interests.

Poughkeepsingh 7" April 1778.

Sir, Your Excellency's Favor of the 24" Ulto. covering two Resolutions of Congress one of the 16"* & the other of the 21st March† last have been deliverd to me. Be pleased, Sir, to assure Congress of my attention to those as well as every other of their acts.

The Laws lately passed by the Legislature of this State are now in the Press and Copies of such of them (when published) as were made in Pursuance of Recommendation of Congress shall be transmitted to you by the earliest opportunity.

From the enclosed Copy of a Proclamation issued in Compliance with the joint Resolutions of both Branches of the Legislature your Excell'y will perceive the Disposition of this State towards its revolted Citizens. A Law has likewise been passed remitting to them all Pains & Penalties incurred by their former

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*The resolution adopted by Congress on the 16th of March, requested the Governors and Presidents of the states, to transmit to Congress as soon as possible, attested copies of the acts passed by their respective legislatures, in pursuance of recommendations of Congress.

†Resolved, That the command of all the troops which now are, or shall be collected and stationed in the state of N. York and in the whole northern department, be vested in one general-officer; that this officer have in charge all the forts, posts and passes therein, and authority to erect and make such fortifications as he, with the advice of [illegible] and the general-officers there, shall judge necessary for securing the same and to execute all the powers lately given by Congress and the board of war relative to the defence of the North River.

That [illegible] be requested to yield to the said general officer all the aid in his power, in [illegible] the fortifications and obstructions aforesaid.

[illegible] general-officer, or, in case of his [illegible] the district above-described, be directed forthwith [illegible] the troops therein as he shall deem expedient.

[illegible] of the continental troops now at Albany [illegible] the said general officer is hereby authorized to ask [illegible] as he shall judge necessary. [illegible] there, until the obstructions at the [illegible] upon Albany by that pass [illegible]

[illegible] on the North-River, the [illegible] necessary officers and men for such time and on such [illegible]

unwarrantable Proceedings a Copy shall also be shortly forwarded to your Excell'y.

There was Reason to presume that Measures so strongly marked with Justice, Humanity and Conciliation would have been effectual and if Justice only had been the Object of these People they doubtless wo'd have been. But I am well informed that their attemps to seperate from this State continue unremitted and that they have proceeded to the Election and appointment of Magistrates & other Officers. As there are so many of them who adhere steadfastly to this State and daily demand its Protection I fear the Duties of my Office will shortly constrain me to adopt such Measures for their Relief and for maintaining the just Jurisdiction of this State in that Quarter as will deprive the United States of Part of the aids they expect from us against the Common Enemy. I extremely regret the Necessity of being driven to these Extremities especially considering the Influence which at this Critical Season they may have on the Common Cause. It affords me however some Consolation to reflect that all Demands on this State for Justice are now fully satisfied and that every evil Consequence must be imputed to those by whose sinnister arts Connivance or Encouragement the Delusion of those People is fostered and promoted.

The Resolutions of Congress disavowing the Facts stated in a Publication of Doct'r Young have had less Effect than was expected. They were explained away and ill use has been made of their containing no express Disapprobation of the intended Seperation or Recommendation to relinquish that Design. The Publication by order of Congress at York Town of Copies or Extracts of certain Letters dated at the State of Vermont containing Matters of Intelligence have also given Occasion to In-

ferences in their Favor. In short, Sir, nothing less than an explicit and unequivocal Declaration of the Sense of Congress on this Subject will remove an Opinion which these People universally entertain and have been taught to believe well founded to wit: That their Proceedings are by no means disagreable to Congress altho prudential Reasons may prevent an Interposition in Favor of their Measures. I have the Honor to be &c.

[G. C.]

His Excellency Henry Laurens Esqr. Presid't of Congress

[No. 1261.]

THE SITUATION BY NO MEANS ROSY.

McDougall Discourages the Proposition to Introduce Spies at West Point—Putnam's Carelessness—He Asks Clinton to a Conference.

Head Quarters Fish Kill 7th April 1778.

Dear Sir, I am favored with three Letters of yours of yesterday. The Orders for the Militia are put in the Train you directed. Copies of those for the Colonels who are to assemble here, have been made out, & Letters covering them, that my Landlord might not retard them from a Disinclination to write, I have caused Enquiry to be made for the Commissary of Prisoners, for General Putnam has given me no minutes or Returns of the Officers of the Department. Whenever the former is found, and I can furnish him with a Guard, your desire respecting the Removal of the Ensign will be accomplish'd. The State of the works will not admit of trying the Spies at West Point; I shall therefore be obliged to defer it till the Regiments from above arrive. I have directed Colonel Dubois to send you the Captain and men you wrote for, without Loss of Time. The Delay of raising the Levies to fill the army has involved us in

numberless Difficulties; and I fear will be productive of misfortunes fatal to our Country. I have been prevented from going to West-point to-day. The Business on which his Excellency wants our Opinion, would be best determined by our being together; and as soon as possible. But I fear the Machinations of the Tories, will prevent your attendance to a joint Consultation on that Subject. The State of these posts requires I should go to West-point, to-morrow, which I intend if something of the greatest moment does not prevent. If you could go down, it would enable us to determine the Question desired by the Commander in chief. I will wait for you till nine in the morning. The Militia are applying to me for ammunition. I am not clear whether I am properly authorised to issue it to them. Besides they are so careless with it, that they will waste it; almost as fast as I can get it made up. Has the State provided none for them. The Bearer must wait your answer. I am Dear Sir Your very humble Servant

Alex'r McDougall.

P. S. General Parsons writes so very pressing for me since I finished the above, I shall be obliged to leave this very early.

His Excellency Governor Clinton, Poughkeepsie.

Poughkeepsie 7th April 1778.

Dear Sir, I am favoured with your Letter of equal Date. If I possibly can I will wait upon you Tomorrow at Fishkill by nine o'Clock, tho It is more than likely I may be prevented, in which Case I shall be at Fishkill early next morning & if the Wind be Northerly Genl. Parsons may be safely spared to meet me then. I am Yours sincerely,

Geo. Clinton.

[To Gen. McDougall.]

[No. 1262.]

The Cornwall Committee Vouches for Mr. St. John.

Orange County April the 7th 1778.

May it Pleas your Excelency, Mr. St. John has Informed the Committee of Cornwell Precinct that he had aplyed to your Excelency for Leave to go to Europe and that your Excelency would willingly know the minds of the Committee who ware his Neighbours. These may Certify that many of us have knone of Mr. St. John's talking and Prepareing to go to Europe before this Disturbence by England begun and that we are apprehencive of no Danger to the State if your Excelency Sees fit to Permit Mr. St. John to go to New York for a Pasage to Europe. We are Sir with Respect Your most Obedient Servnts

By order Elihu Marvin, Chairman.

To his Excelency George Clinton.

[No. 1263.]

Parole of Lieutenant Benj'n P. Griffith of De Lancey's Corps.

I Lieut. Benjamin Griffith do pledge my faith and word of Honor to Major General Putnam, that I will depart from hence, and remain in Company with Capt. Seymon, untill deliver'd to another officer, with whom I will continue, and not leave him or his party on any pretence untill I arrive at Poughkeepsie where I will wait on, & resign myself up to his Excellency Governor Clinton.

Given under my Hand at Hartford this Eighth day of April 1778.

Benj'n P. Griffith Lt. 2d Batt'n De Lancy.

[No. 1264.]

Governor Clinton Sends a Gossipy Letter to Francis Lewis.

Poughkeepsie 8th Apl. 1778.

Sir, I am obliged to you for your Letter of the 20th Ulto. The Legislature of this State sensible of the Disadvantages the Con-

inent labours under for want of a more ample Representation n Congress and of the great Fatigue their Delegates have sustained by their close Confinement to Business, have appointed Genl. Schuyler as an additional Member and I expect as he has been notified of his appointment he will soon take his seat with you.

The Legislature having passed many Laws during the Course of a long Session adjourned on Saturday last.

The works for the Defence of the River at West Point are now carried on with Spirit. I have large Detachments of Militia daily employed in this Service who with the Continental Troops exert themselves on this Occasion from which I have Reason to presume that were we well provided with Cannon we should soon be in a tolerable State of Defence there. Very few of those left by the Enemy at Ticonderago have yet arrived at Albany nor can they now be brought forward stocked & mounted fit for Service before the first or middle of June which will be too late for our use. What has occasioned this intolerable Delay I am unable to determine. I am Sir Your most obed. serv.

[G. C.]

Poghkeepsingh April 8th 1778.

Mr Francis Lewis.

[No. 1265.]

SITUATION IN SCHOHARIE CRITICAL.

Conway Notifies Governor Clinton that the British and Hessian Prisoners Have Been Sent off to Hartford.

Albany 8th April 1778.

Sir, I Just now receiv'd your excellency's favour of the 6th inst. I expect Livingston's Regiment to-morrow, and will immediately send it Down with a party of Vanschoyk's this Day

arriv'd from Saratoga. I receive repeated petitions from the inhabitants on the Mohawk river. Their situation is allarming. I have shew'd part of your Letter just now to two members sent me from the Committee of Schoary; they persist in Believing that at Least some small party of continental troops should be without Delay Stationn'd at Harperfield and Schoary-Kill, to quiet the minds of the inhabitants, prevent them from moving, and to give time for Collecting the militia that is order'd to be rais'd. Capt. Alexander Harper from Harper's field proposes to raise a Company of rangers, and shew'd me the names of a good many who have already subscrib'd to serve under him; he only wants a warrant and proper orders; if your excellency approves of the measure, I think that the sooner the warrant Could be sent from the state to Capt. Harper, the Better.

As soon as I have Dispatched Levingston's and the remainder of Vanschoyk's, I mean to goe to Bennington to see if I can do any thing with that inconcevable Regt. of Warner's. I will Strive to move them to Saratoga, and employ them in saving at Least what Cannons were Left in the Neighbourhood of fort Anne. I would propose to send also a party of forty men from this place to Harperfield.

I this Day sent off to Hartford the British Hessians and Canadian prisonners in this place. Major Stevens has ten Cannons readdy to send Down whenever you order.

I must strive all means to have horses for transporting the military stores in this place in case of accident, Your answer and advice upon these matters I will be very happy to receive. I am with respect Sir Your Excellency's Most obedient Servant.

Th's Conway.

[To Gov. George Clinton.]

[No. 1266.]

ernor Clinton Reports to Gates of the Progress of the Works at West Point.

Poghkeepsingh April 8" 1778.

Dr Sir, I am favored with your very obliging letter of the 23d rch last.* I am sensible that the Public Service has met with ny Obstructions arising from the Reasons mentioned in your :ter but with you I trust that by a well directed Perseverance shall be able to overcome every Obstacle to the Establishnt of our Freedom & Independency.

The works calculated for the Defence & Obstruction of the dson's River are now carried on with a Degree of Spirit that mises their speedy Completion, to accomplish which I have ge Detachments of Militia daily employed none of those from Eastward having yet arrived tho we may now soon expect m.

There has been some unaccountable Neglect in getting the nnon forward from Ticonderoga. Only two or three of the ıvier Pieces are yet at Albany. The Residue even tho now on ir way, cannot be here stocked & mounted fit for Service be-e the first or middle of June which will be much too late for Purposes. I am &c.

[G. C.]

nl. Gates.

[No. 1267.]

omas Moffat Indorses Mr. St. John's Application for Leave to Go to Europe.

Blooming Grove 9th April 1778.

May it Please your Excellency, Agreeable to your directions ıen I saw you last I have mentioned to several of the Principle

*Not found.

People of this County Mr. St. John's application to your Excellency for leave to Return to his Native Country, as well as the Encouragement he met with—they all concur in wishing that he may obtain your Excellencies final Leave, as they are sensible of his long intentions and design to return to Urope, and some of them are convinced of the absolute necessity which has at last forced him to apply to your Excellency. Your Positive permission (if consistant with your duty at this time) will therefore be extreamly agreeable to their wishes, and I think with Justice and humanity. I am Your Excellency's most Obedient and very Hum'e Ser't

Thomas Moffat.

Governor Clinton.

[No. 1268.]

Gloriana Stevenson Makes an Eloquent Appeal for Assistance to Governor Clinton.

May it please your Excellency, to attend the complaint which sad Necessity induces me to Lay before you; I Left my house and estate at Frogs point, when the troops from Great Britain Landed there; my sons are in the service of their country, and I am in Circumstances Extremely disagreeable to a person accustom'd to so Different a method of Living from what I am at present constrain'd to endure: the small sum of money I could collect at the time I quitted my home is near Expended. It is absolutely Requisite that I should attempt some scheme for A future subsistence. With this view I made application to the commissioners of Sequestration, for the house Mr. Townsend formerly inhabited, as it is A convenient situation for the Bussiness I intended to pursue, which was that of publick entertainment, I Jug'd (Rationally I imagine) that having Lost all in the

contest subsisting between Great Britain and America, I was intitled to some peculiar priviledges, and being A person once possess'd of valuable and Large demesne I might hope the greatest indulgence, and paternal care of the Government; Especially as my sons are active in the cause of Liberty and virtue. It is not possible for me to exist without some such method of support, as I have propos'd; my Request to your Excellency is that some decent house proper for the purpose I have mention'd, be assign'd me by some persons nominated by your Excellency, as the Commissioners have seen fit, why I cannot determine, to Refuse the house I apply'd for; it is taken up by one of the commissioners, who has Another farm, which he Rents out, his family is small, and he stands in no need of so Large A tenement. I can look to no person for assistance so properly as to your Excellency, and from you alone Expect Redress, I hope you will compassionate the circumstances of A Gentle woman, A widow, with three daughters, Depriv'd of those sweet and agreeable conveniences, an ample fortune enabled them to Enjoy, now thrown out upon the world for means of subsistence. Do not my calamities Loudly Demand commiseration? Will not the breast of A Gentleman, A patriot, feel for me the tender sensations of humanity? And will he not Exert himself to Render my situation more Easy, and comfortable, than it now is? May it please your Excellency to give me Leave to subscribe myself your most obedient and faithful servant

Gloriana Stevenson.

Cortlandts manor April 9th 1778.

P. S. I should Esteem it A particular favor if I might have the honor of an answer by my Son who waits on your Excellency with this.

[To G. C.]

[No. 1269.]

CONNECTICUT AND MASSACHUSETTS COOPERATE.

In Defence of the Hudson—Governor Trumbull Suggests a Movement Against New York.

Lebanon 10th April 1778.

Sir, In Consequence of your Letter to me, request'g a Proportion of men from this State & Massachusetts Bay to compleat 3000 for Defence of Hudson's River—this State have complied to raise 1000—the Massachusetts have agreed to 1300—which, with your 700 makes the Number mentioned—our Quota is forward'd—Massachusetts, I suppose, are in equal forwardness.

By Resolution of Congress of 21st March I am informed that "Gov'r Clinton & Gov'r Trumbull are requested to give every Assistance in their Power to Genl. McDougall for perfect'g the Defence of the North River"—to effect this most necessary Purpose let me Quere—whether, in addition to such measures as are already tak'g an effectual & vigorous Effort upon N. York would be one salutary measure for the Prosecution of which, the N. England States, under the Direction of Generals & officers, in whose Abilities & Resolution for push'g an Enterprise, they can confide, I make no Doubt, but would be willing to turn out with their most vigorous Exertions. I doubt not also the utmost Exertions of your State—a measure of this kind would at least prove a Diversion in Fav'r of Genl. Washington & perhaps draw good Part of the British Army more Eastward, where it is in our Power to meet them perhaps with better Effect to the general Cause than in their present Situation. I hint the matter only for your Consideration—think upon it—if on Digestion, it happens to meet your approbation, you will please to hit on such measures for forward'g its accomplishment, as you think proper.

In this, or in any other Projection for the Purpose mentioned in the Resolution of Congress I shall be ready to assist & cooperate with my utmost abilities. With great Esteem I am Sir Your most obedient humble Servant

Jon'th Trumbull.

His Excellency Gov. Clinton.

[No. 1270.]

Mr. Cregier Asks for Compensation for Furnishing Johnston's Rangers with Supplies.

Clarkstown April 11th 1778.

May it Please your Execeneey Last September I was appointed Depty Commissarry of the Mellitia Under the Command of Colenell Ann Hawks Hay, and in October Last Capt. Johnston of Clarkstown who Commanded a Company of Rangers apply'd to me to Furnish him with Provisions for the said Company; in Obediance to duty of my Country I Cheerefully Comply'd with his Request; and as I have Furnished Captain Johnston and his Company Six months with Provisions, I cannot Inform myself who I am to apply to for Cash to pay off those Debts I have Contracted and am Daily Harrised for the Money for the Provisions I have Purchased. I will be Heartily Glad your Excelencey will Please to give me Instructions where I am to Draw the money in order to satisfy the People for the same, and Likewise to Receive my Pay for thus acting as Purchising Commissarry as I was Discharged by Colnell Hay when the militia and Compinies of Drafts was Discharged—and as I have apply'd to Colenell Hay for the money he Tells me that Capt. Johnston's Provisions Does not come Under his Department. Therefore must apply to your Excelencey; who I hope will Eneable me to Receive th

money as I Can Produce a Just and Perticular account of every Thing Purchased by me for said Company and as I am a Refugee from Kings Bridge who had the Honour of Commanding an armed vessel Belonging to the Provential Congress of New York would be glad of serving in any Department under your Goverment if an Ishuing Commisary should be wanting. Colonell Hay has acquainted me he wrote on that subject to your Excelencey and Great Demur amonghst the melitia who is on Duty for the want of Provisions, But cannot Redress Them without your Orders; I conclude with my Due Respects your Excelency's Most Obediant Humble Servant at any Command

Thomas Cregier.

To His Excellency Geo. Clinton, esqr.

P. S. I will be very Glad to have an answer Directed at Clarkstown.

[No. 1271.]

John Livingston Accepts Appointment as an Aide.

Manor Livingston Apr. 12 '78.

Sir, Mr. Duane inform'd me your Excellency has done me the Honor to appoint me one of your Aid Du Camps according to my request, for which I return my thancks and am ready to attend your Excellency whenever I am ordered. I am Sir Your Excellency's most obed't Humble Serv't

John Livingston.

For his Excellency Gov. Clinton.

[No. 1272.]

WESTCHESTER PETITIONS FOR RELIEF.

The Gaol Removed to Bedford Since the Burning of White Plains—A Guard of Thirty Necessary to Look After Prisoners.

Bedford 12th April 1778.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State of New York, General and Comander in Chief of all the Militia and Admiral of the Navy of the same.

May it please your Excellency The petition of the Good people of County of West Chester Humbly Sheweth, That whereas by the depradation of the Enemy in this County, the Court House at the White Plains together with that Village have been totally Consumed by fire,

The good people of this County have erected a small Goal or Guardhouse in the Town of Bedford in order to Confine offenders, and for the further securing more effectually the Liberty of the well affected of this State in general.

And whereas the general Committee together with the Field Officers of this County did rais a small guard by virtue of a Resolution of Convention, for the better securing of prisoners in the said Place of Confinement Whose times of Enlistment are now expired, and the Committee and Field Officers do not think themselves properly authorized to revive the same.

And whereas the Town abovesaid has now become the place where all publick business is transacted in the abovesaid County, We pray to inform your Excellency that the Civil authority of said County will never be able to carry the Laws of the State in execution, unless a small guard be allowed them, and for the better securing those persons whose conduct do not entitle them to run at large.

We whose Names are hereto affixed for ourselves, and in Behalf of the rest of the inhabitants of this County humbly pray your Excellency once more to extend your kind hand of protection to us by enabling us to raise, under some proper Officer, a Guard of Thirty men in such manner as your Excellency shall think most expedient to serve one Year from the time of their Inlistment.

And whereas the Guards heretofore raised were allowed and payed at the Rates following (Viz.) Officers continental pay and rations or in Lieu of Rations twenty one Shillings pr Week, Serjents Seven Pounds pr Month and Sixteen Shillings a week for Rations, Corporal and Drum Six Pounds Ten Shillings Pr Month and Sixteen Shillings pr Week Rations, Privates Six Pounds Pr Month and Sixteen Shillings pr Week rations.

And whereas we think it will be impossible to raise a Guard at this Season of the year for less than heretofore given, we hope your Excellency will enable the Officers heretofore mentioned to rais a Guard on the same footing as before, assuring you that it is impossible to do justice in any point without such necessary Guards being raised.

Your petitioners further beg leave to observe to your Excellency that there are almost daily instances in which the administrators of Justice are obliged to convey offenders to different parts of the Continent, which at many times has left our Guard consisting of only Twenty five men, that the Committee themselves have often been obliged to Guard the prisoners themselves.

Relying therefore on your Excellency's great Goodness to do as you in your great wisdom shall think fit, your petitioners will as in duty bound ever pray.

Gilb't Drake, Robt. Graham, Eben'r Lockwood, Ab'm Leggett, lb't Budd, Eb'r Haviland, Jon'n G. Graham, Daniel Horton, benezer Ward, Benja. Lyon, Peter Lyon, Lot Sarlls, Philip eek, Ezekiel Huddie, David Hays, Andrew Sniffen, Michael lays, John Forman, — Purdy,* Jacob Miller Jun'r, Henry Piers, Jesse Wilson, Elijah Hunter, Benjamin Hay, Gilbirt Wright, Gabriel Higgins, Isaac Baxter, Nathaniel Weeks, Alex'r Whaley, John Buchanan, Israel Lyon, Thomas Pinkney, John Oakley, Ebenezer Purdy, James Brown, Jesse Holly, Lemuel Light, Seth Whitne, Gilbirt Dean, James Raymond, Richard Armstrong, Ebenezer Miller, Zebadiah Mills, Jas. Ronalds, Samuel Lewis, Nathanel Clark, Daniel Clark, Joseph Holmes, Sam'l Mills, Justis Harris, Joseph Rundell, Becker Holmes, Daniel Hait, William Garnsey, Isaac Smith, Nathan Clark, Joseph Clark Jun'r, Moses St. john, Jonas Hait, Samuel Gray, Hezekiah Wood, Isaac Clark, William Reynolds, Gideon Seely, Israel Hait, Nathan Clark jun., James Raymond Jun'r, Joseph Clark, Nathan Olmsted, Lidowick Light, Nathan Holmes, Joseph Mills, John Wescot, John Saunders, Cornelius Clark, Marcus Moseman, Daniel Miller, Lewis Miller, James Mills, Daniel Bostwick, Henry Charlick, Daniel Miller, Isaac Miller, Stephen Weeks, Ogleby D. Steward, John Buckbee, Mosas Higgins, Enoch Honeywel, James McDonald, Eli Seely, Joseph Miller, Samuel Bostwick, Daniel Tibbet, Josiah Mills, John Ingersull, Josiah Miller juner, Josiah Miller, Jonathan Weeks, George Arhart, William Wright, Nathanel Waring, Jonathan Horton.

Indecipherable.

[No. 1273.]

Governor Clinton Urges General Schuyler to Proceed to Congress.

Poghkeepsingh 13 April 1778.

D'r Sir, I did myself the Honor by a Letter of 27th March to inform you of your appointment as an additional Delegate to represent this state in Congress which (as I have received no answer) I am apprehensive may have miscarried. The necessity there is of your speedy attendance on that Duty induces me to repeat the Information and beg you to repair to York Town with as much Expedition as conveniently may be. I shall expect to see you on your Way thither and am with great Regard your most obed. ser.

[G. C.]

Major Genl. Schuyler.

[No. 1274.]

COLONEL HARDENBERGH RUNS CLOSE UP TO MUTINY.

Governor Clinton Overlooks the Offence and Administers Diplomatic Advice.

New Hurly April 9th 1778.

May it please your Excellency, I Rece'd orders from your Hon'r dated 19th Instant, for one third of Colo: Hasbrouks Regt. o militia to march Imediatly to West Point, To Join the Troo under the Command of Genl. Persons, for Two weeks, To assist i Carring on the works.

Mr. Wisner as Commissioner appointed to Carry on the said works, apply'd To me for one third of our Regt. for one week, which I Complyed with, Knowing the Nescessity of it being of much Consequence, when our Country is in Such a Defence*las* Situation as at present, But Expected wou'd be Relieved at that Time, by our Northeren Regt. of Ulster, Albany and Dutches Countys & Take an Equil Turn.

I think our Regt. is heavy loaded with military Dutys, by what ır Neighbours are. Remember, after the Reduction of fort Montomry, when Esopus was Consumed, where was Collo. Pawlings & nyders Regt., they were not To be Seen. Remember the Six reeks Service in Nov'r Last at Nickols's Point—where was Pawings & Snyders Regts., Even Orange County militia which were Equilly ordered in that Service with us, but did not attend, when our Regt. attended in full,

This winter, there was not a week, but we where Called upon by the Q. M. To Carry Stores from Newburgh To Sussux, when our Northeren Neighbours where all at home; and Now againe, what is become of our Northeren fellow Subjects? Are they Totely Exempted or burried in the Oblivion?

I Immediately Complyed with your orders, I had in Consequence of Mr. Wisners Request. Ten Days before, Draughed one third of the Regt. For three weeks, our men Turned out with much Spiritt. Wee have Now, and had, one Hundred & Sixty men, including Twenty men in New Marlburgh precinct Giting Logs for the Chain, in Consequence of these orders.

We are informed that by a Law of this State, are Obliged To Rais, out of the militia, men to fill up the State Regts. in Continantial Service, that your Hon'r is Entituled To a Discretionery power to Rais them in any part of the State. We humbly Beg leave to acquaint your Hon'r, that Considering the great Distress & Difficulty under which our Regt. has Laboured, Being the main Defence of the Passes in the Highlands, & always Ready to Defend it, that your Hon'r wou'd be pleased to Exempt our Regt. from Raising any Part of them, Because we Believe there is not a men in our Regt. can be prevailed upon to Enter in any of these Regt. Because Collo. Dubois & his officers have had freequent op-

pertunity within a Course of this year past To Inlist them. These & many other Reasons Convincies of that fact That if your Hon'r Considers these facts Canditly, I flatter myself will Excuse our Regt. from Raising any part of these men. These are matters Great Importance and Beg it may obtain your Hon'r attention & aprobation. I am Hon'r S'r with much Respect Your Verry Humble & Obed't Serv't

Joh's Hardenbergh, Ju'r.

To his Excellency George Clinton.

Poughkeepsie 13th April 1778.

Sir, I am this Moment favoured with your Letter of the 9th Instant. I am sensible your Regiment and Colo. McClaghry's & some other Regiments from their peculiar Situation were burthened with an extraordinary share of Duty last year, for which whenever it is in my Power consistent with Law & my Duty, I will most readilly consider them. In the present Drafts to be made to fill up the Continental Battalions, I have it is true, Power to grant Exemptions to certain Regiments, who have furnished or are destined to furnish Men for other Services since the 1st of January last; but I have no authority to give Exemptions for Services performed before that period. The Regiments I exempt are principally Frontier Regiments & they are in Consideration thereof to furnish 700 Men for the Defence of the State to continue in Service for one year from the 1st of January last. The Drafts for the Continental Battalions are every fifteenth Man & in the whole will ammount to about 500 Men only. Those for the other Service on an average, will be at least every 7th Man & will ammount to 700 to serve for as long a Period. One third of your Regiment were ordered by me into Service for 2 Weeks at

West Point & so has the other Regim'ts South of you & Colo. Brinckerhoff's of Dutchess County. The other Regiments who have not performed equivalent Service must yet take their Turns there of elsewhere. Two of the Regiments in this County are to raise 60 Men each for one year. Colo. Southerland's has now an Equal Number in actual Service in this County erecting Block Houses to confine the State Prisoners in & as Guards over them to continue for one Month. Albany County was ordered to raise 400 Men for last Winter, four Months agreable to a Resolve of Congress, which I suppose you will judge equal to your present Service at least.

You may rest assured, Sir, that as soon as I can get regular Returns of the Different Corps of Militia the Duty from Time to Time shall be as equally shared among the different Regiments as in my Power, and if at any Time one Regt. or County from their Situation shoud be called to do a greater Share then another, they will have due Credit & be considered for it on some future Occassion. Upon the whole I trust you will readilly see that It is not in my Power to exempt your Regiment on the present Occassion, without exempting every other Regiment having performed like Services, which woud entirely defeat the Design of the Law. I am with great Regard Your Most Obed't Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

I trust you Consider yourselves as Volluntiers when out at Mr. Wisner's Request without my orders. I am sure it was out of real Zeal in the Cause of your Country.

[To Lieutenant-Colonel Hardenbergh.]

[No. 1275.]

Commissary Cuyler Requests Advice from Governor Clinton Relative to the Shipment of Food Supplies.

Albany April 13th 1778.

Sir, Agreeable to your requast, through my friend Robert Yates, I send you one Barrel of Boiling Pease; hope they may arrive Safe.

The late Embargo Act to prevent the Exsportation of Flour. meal & Grain, is intirely Silent respecting any of the above articles, which may be found necessary by the Commissaries to Exsport into the Eastren States, from which, however, I concive it my Duty to inform your Excellencey that as soon as the Roads are fit, I shall have to forward to Boston a Considerable Quantity of Flour, for the use of the Prisioners of the Convention & other Public wants there. It is also in Contemplation to remove to Shaffield some flour as a Place of Security.

Your Excellencey will, therefore, be Pleased to Give me Such assistence & advice in this matter, as will Inable me to move forw'd Such quantites of Flour as shall be requasite for the Publio Service, to ascertain the Quantity Is impossible. It will Depend on what can be Spared, as well as the demands Which may be made on me from time to Time. I am with respect Your Excellencey's most Obdt. & vary humble Serv't

Jacob Cuyler.

To His Excellencey George Clinton Esqr.

3¼ Bush. of Pease.....	24/	£3 — 18 — 0
Cash		6 — 0
		£4 — 4 — 0

[No. 1276.]

Governor Clinton Discusses the Question of Patronage with the Schenectady Committee.

Poughkeepsingh April 13" 1778.

Sir, I am honored by the Receipt of your Letter of the 24" Ulto. inclosing a Copy of a Remonstrance laid before the Committee of Schenectady by a Number of the Inhabitants of that District. Be pleased to assure them, Sir, that as far as I have anything to do in the Distribution of Offices, the People of the Town of Schenectady shall equally participate with the People of Albany, or of any other Part of the State, and that my Orders shall never charge them with more than their due Proportion of Military Duty. As to the appointments in the Continental Line, in which tho' there may have been Partiality, it is out of my Power to correct it, but as to any abuses which have been committed by the Staff of the army on proper Complaint & Proof the Persons injured will be redressed and the Offenders punished. I have the Honor to be &c.

[G. C.]

To Andrew McFarland, Esqr.

[No. 1277.]

The Five New Continental Battalions.

Sir, Presuming on your Zeal for the Service of your Country I have taken the Liberty of appointing you a Commissioner for carrying the inclosed Law for filling up the five Continental Battalions raised under the Direction of this State* into Execution to which important Business I trust you will pay due atten-

*The act for completing the five Continental battalions raised under the direction of this state, under the act of Congress of the 26th day of February 1778, was passed by the New York State Legislature April first, 1778.

tion. The General Order containing your appointment you have also inclosed. I have the Honor to be Your most obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

13th April 1778.

Copies with the Law & Genl. Orders sent to Henry Glen, Jonathan Lawrence & Thomas Palmer Esqrs. Com'rs the 14th Apl. 1778.

[No. 1278.]

General McDougall Complains of the Trivial Annoyances he is Subjected to.

Fish Kill 13th April 1778.

Dear Sir, I am so Harassed with business of a trivial nature, that my mind is almost distracted and scarcely able to attend to the important concerns of the department. In this state, a Lieut. Griffith in the Enemy's Service of the 2d Battalion, of Delancy's Brigade has come to this place, with a Party goeing to Head Quarters, on parole, by direction of General Putnam to deliver himself up to you as he says to be exchanged for some officer of this state; as he is originally from it. As I am utterly unacquainted with the reasons of this extraordinary proceedure, in this critical state of these posts; and your condition at Poughkepsie; I have detained him here till I can receive some information on this subject. This moment one John Ireland taken on Long Island, is brought on here in Irons. This I suppose is in consequence of the late resolutions of Congress; to be delivered up to the state he originally belonged to. I am Dear Sir Your Humble Servant

Alex'r McDougall.

[To Governor George Clinton.]

[No. 1279.]

Colonel Hathorn Calls General James Clinton's Attention to the Case of Caleb Hyatt.

Warwick 14th April 1778.

Dear General, Your favour I Recieved with an Order Inclosed which I Shall Strictly attend to, However dificult it may be, as the distance of some part and indeed the whole of my Regiment from West Point & the other places, may Prevent our Properly Recieving the Alarm; the disposition of my Regiment is Either at West Point or Sydman's Bridge, I Shall be at a Loss which place to March to, I hope that on the appearance of the Enemies Landing on the West Side of the River I may be informed thereof, from the Governor or Officer Commanding at that Post, otherwise I must if alarmed by the Fireing of the Guns march to West Point.

Sir, you may Remember that you ordered Into Confinement, Last Winter at N. Windsor a Certain Caleb Hoyatt supposed to be a prisoner of Warr, from which place he was Transmitted to Poughkepsey Goal; he is now out, at Work at Crumb Pond, on Some kind of Security, I have Since Enquired of Some Deserters who left the Enemy Since he was taken who declares he was deemed a deserter, from them, I believe he was coming in when he was taken, although he told So bad a Story when Examined before you for which he has pretty well Suffered.

His Wife and Family Stands in Great Need of Some aid; unless he is allowed to take Some care of them, its probable they will be an Expence to the Publick. I hope the General will Consider his case who by a little Interference he may be Enlarged, he I am Convinced may with less danger to the Country be allowed to be here with his family than where he now is. I will

make it my Business to keep a Watchfull Eye over him, however I am well Sattisfied his Intentions was Good Nothwithstanding his Conduct. I am with Sentiments of Esteem Your obt Serv't

John Hathorn Col.

General James Clinton at New Windsor.

[No. 1280.]

The Militia at West Point to be Dismissed—The Case of Lieutenant Griffith.

Poughkeepsie 15th Apl. 1778.

Dear Sir, I am favoured with your Letter of the 13th Instant. Was the Dep'y Commissary Genl. of Prisoners to attend in this Department & do his Duty it woud save you & me a great deal of Trouble. Genl. Putnam writes me that Lieut. Griffin was out on Parole in Connecticut where he endeavoured to poison the Minds of the Inhabitants as much as in his Power that for this Reason & because he was an Inhabitant of this State he is sent here. What to do with him I dont know.

I inclose you a Letter I received yesterday from Governor Trumbull for your perusal which as it is not yet answered you will please to return to me by the first convenient Opportunity.

I have sent out orders to Draft from the different Regiments of Militia of this State to fill up the five Continental Battalions & as it will be absolutely necessary to dismiss the Militia imployed at West Point untill those Drafts are made I must begg you to dismiss them accordingly. I am, Sir, Your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Genl. McDougal.

[No. 1281.]

MILITARY AFFAIRS IN THE NORTH.

General McDougall Opposed to Large Commissary Depots as Offering Inducements for Raids from the Enemy.

Fish Kill 15th April 1778.

Dear Sir, I have been favored with yours, of this date, covering sundry Letters, and a petition from Cherry Valley. All my enquiries about the Commissary of Prisoners, have proved ineffectual. I suppose he is gone to furnish the Commissary General with such information, as is necessary, preparative to the general exchange of Prisoners. As I have no Command of the troops, in the northern Department, and a total Stranger, to the Geography of Cherry valley, and Albany, I can give no decisive advice where it will be proper, to station the troops above, or to deposit the Flour purchased by the Commissary. It however appears to me inexpedient, to collect any more of it at Albany than will be sufficient for the support of the troops, which may be stationed there; as it will only serve to increase the enemy's attention to that City, should a Misfortune happen on the River. Such quantities of the Flour as may be near the River, should be removed from it, and stored in small parcels out of the reach of a Coup de main. When the difficulty of Carting is considered, the enemy will not risque a march into the Country, to destroy or collect small parcells, but if a considerable magazine is collected, it may prompt him to run more hazard. It would frustrate the end of purchasing stores, to put them in State of absolute Security, unless they were in fortified places, near the army, but as we are not possessed of such holds, our Stores will always be in some danger, if they are at Command for use.

The impatience of Dr. McNamara Hayes, to leave Albany indicates an intention to serve his master at our expence; but he should know or be taught it, that his giving receipts for necessaries furnished the Hospital, does not come up to the resolution of Congress; the money must be paid for those articles, if every other impediment was removed, before he and his fellow prisoners are exchanged.

It is a pressing Season to dismiss the Militia at West Point, but it must be done. You are ready with our joint opinion to answer the important question put to you by Governor Trumbull: It is therefore unnecessary for me to say any thing on that Subject. Has our State made no provision of Ammunition for the Militia? If not can it be conceived, that I am authorized to furnish any but to those who shall be in actual Service? I have the honor to be with esteem Your humble Servant

Alex'r McDougall.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 1282.]

LOYAL TO NEW YORK.

Representatives from a Number of Towns of Vermont Oppose the Creation of a New State at This Particular Time.

In a Convention of Committees from the Towns of [illegible]

[No. 1283.]

Richard Kip Accuses Captain Crane of Purloining a Box.

Pompton April 15th 1778.

Sir, Last Decm'r a Twelvemonth a Small Box was Taken at or Near Princetown And Deposited in an Amunition Cart & Supposed to be Taken From thence by Capt. Crane. I can Assure you that I have Seen a Box in Crane's Possession That answers the Description & Since the Discovery he is prepareing to Leave the Continent. He Now Resides in Clarks Town, Orange County. A Line to Collo. Gilbert Coper at Kakeate with Direction to Detect Or Apprehend In haste May Still Serve to Recover the Money &c. for those Justly Entitled to the Same. In haste I Rem'n S'r your V H S.

Rich'd Kip, Jun'r., Ass. D. Q. M. G.

To Collo. Hammilton.

[No. 1284.]

Governor Clinton Gives the Reverend Mr. Mason Reasons for Not Appointing Two Men to Office.

Poughkeepsie 16th April 1778.

D'r Sir, I received your Letter of the 4th March five Days ago. It woud give me great Pleasure to serve the Persons you recommend, Mr. Earnest & Mr. Brown, as I know them to be worthy Citizens who have suffered much by the present Contest and I dont in the least doubt but the other is equally deserving. I am unhappy, therefore, in not having any Post in my Gift which woud enable them to earn a Support for themselves & Famillies. In the State there are very few Offices for which they are qualified but such as, in these Dear Times, woud be a Burthen instead of a help, the Perquisites or Salaries annexed to the Offices not affording an adequate Compensation for the Trouble of the Of-

ficer. The few that are worth holding were granted by the Convention to Refugees equally distressed who still hold them. In the Course of last year while I was in the Military Line, I had the Pleasure of relieving the distresses of some, as Vaccancies frequently happened on the Staff of the Army, and the Commanding Officer generally filled them up with Persons I Recommended. You may rest assured, Sir, shoud an Opportunity Offer by which I may able to serve these good People it will be most chearfully embraced. In the Mean Time I will recommend them to Genl. McDougal's attention, who now Commands in this Department & is most likely to have it in his Power to serve them. Please to present my best Respects to Mrs. Mason & believe to be with great Regard Rever'd Sir Your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

[To Rev. John Mason.]

[No. 1285.]

Governor Clinton Requests Secretary of State Scott to Fill Out Military Commissions First.

Poughkeepsie 16th April 1778.

Sir, I find it the prevailing Oppinion among the Militia Officers appointed by the Council that they are not authorized to act until they receive their Commissions in due form & on the other Hand the old Officers are willing to consider themselves superceded, from which I fear great Inconveniences will arise in making the Drafts for filling up the Continental Battalions & other Military Service. Let me, therefore, intreat that the compleating the Military Commissions be the first Business in your Office. I am Sir with Respect Your Most Obdt. Serv't

[G. C.]

Genl. Scott.

[No. 1286.]

The Albany Committee Protests Against the Removal of the Troops.

Albany Committee Chamber 16th April 1778.

Sir, We are just now informed that the Continental Troops stationed in this City are ordered to Fish Kills. This Step however right it may be, alarms us much. We would beg leave to observe, that near one hundred and forty Tory Prisoners are at present Confined in this City and are daily encreasing, and upwards of fifty Regular Prisoners together with a large Quantity of Public Stores, Provisions, a Laboratory and other public buildings, all of which require Troops to Guard them, the number of disaffected Persons in and about this City, who would readily embrace any favourable oppertunity that should offer to distress us of which their present Conduct evinces.

Warner's Regiment consisting of one hundred and thirty Men, Officers included, who are ordered here we are induced to beleive are not sufficiently disciplined to discharge the trust that will be reposed in them. Our Northern Frontiers in a defenceless situation and no Troops to Succor them,—such is the situation of this County at present; of which we hold it our indispensible duty to inform your Excellency & suggest to you the propriety of Continuing Alden's or Greaten's Regiments in this City or devise such other ways or means for the protection of the public Stores &c. as shall appear necessary to your Excellency. We are Your Excellency's Most Obt. Serv'ts

By order John Barclay Chairman.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 1287.]

[illegible] the Request the Removal of the British Doctor [illegible] and Other Prisoners.

[illegible] Chamber 16th April 1778.

[illegible] who has resided in this City, the [illegible] rendered himself very obnoxious [illegible] of this City. Repeated applica[illegible] removed to the Eastward—as [illegible] Liberty to lay this matter before [illegible] the Name of the Inhabitants of this [illegible] enterprise in having the Brittish Doc[illegible] Prisoners removed. We are Your [illegible] Servts

[illegible] John Barclay Chairman.

[illegible]

[No. 1288.]

[illegible] Petition of John Moffat.

[illegible] being well acquainted with the per[illegible] Moffat, now a prisoner in Dutchess [illegible] late Court of Oyer and Ter[illegible] on a conviction for * * * [illegible] standing one hour in the pillory, he [illegible] the sentence is that he stand [illegible] Tuesday in this month, and then to [illegible] and receive thirty nine lashes on [illegible] have to acquaint your Excellency, that [illegible] during the present troubles Distin[illegible] an active and remarkable Zealous Whigg, [illegible] to the publick in apprehending

[illegible]

nd Otherwise Discouraging the Enemies of this state, and in ther respects, bears the Character of an honest and useful member of Society. Therefore beg the favour of your Excellency to pardon the said John Moffet for this Offence, so that the residue of his sentence may be Remitted, and are your Excellency's most Humble Servants

P. D'Witt, Wm. Radclift, Henry Freligh, Hormanis B——— John V Steenbergh, John Wood, John McGill, John Pear, Jacob Tremper, William Adamson, Thomas Humphreys, J. Kiersteade, Richart Defoll, Daniel Wilson, William Schultz, Michael Shatzel, Henrick Bermyer, John Sickner, John nes mehr, Simon his X marke Scott, John Scott, John Holmes, John MacDonald, Miner to the State of New York, Peter Brown, Jost Weder, John Tremper, Jacob Kip, Wiliem Vredinborugh, Aaron Vredinborugh, Abram Kip, Janbatist Kip, Isaac Kip, Barent Van Wagenen Jn., Barent Van Wagenen, John Ring, Abraham Kip, Cap., Phlip Heermanc, Cornelius Radclift, Abraham Scott.

To the Honble. George Clinton Esqr. Governor &c. of the State of New York. April 16, 1779.*

[No. 1289.]

General Schuyler Explains Why he Cannot Take his Seat in Congress at This Time.

Albany, April 17th 1778.

D'r Sir, Your Excellency's Favor of the 15th Instant I had the Honor to receive last Night—that of the 27th Ult. on the second Instant, to which my Answer was given on the 4th from Saratoga.

Mrs. Schuyler expects to lay in about the first week in May, but that is not the only Reason which would prevent me from

* [illegible] is out of place in the original manuscript. As it is unimportant th[illegible] allow[illegible]d it to remain.

repairing to York Town immediately. Some Time ago I carried all my Family to Saratoga intending to have resided there altogether, as soon as I should have resigned the Employments I held under Congress, which will be whenever an Enquiry into the Cause of the Loss of Tyconderoga shall have taken place. I was determined to this Resolution on a Supposition that Troops would have been posted to the Northward for the protection of the Country, but as not a single one is left, I shall be under the Necessity of drawing my Family from thence, especially as all the Country above me, and even far below are preparing to leave their Habitations, and will certainly do it, if no Troops are sent there by the first of next Month. I do not however mean to bring away my Servants as I shall erect a picket Fort round my House and let them if possible, keep it. In this exposed State of the Country, I cannot divest my Family of that Assistance which I apprehend they will need when an Incursion of the Enemy takes place, which will probably be soon as the drawing all the Troops from this Quarter is a Kind of Invitation for them to come down. I have the Honor to be Dear Sir Your Excellency's most obedient Servant

Ph: Schuyler.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 1290.]

TO COMMAND THE NORTHERN DEPARTMENT.

John Stark Ordered to Albany—His Instructions from General Gates.

In Congress 17th April 1778.

Resolved, That Brigadier General Stark be employed in the northern Department under the Command of Major General Gates.

Extracts from the minutes

Charles Thompson Secretary.

York, April 17th 1778.

Dear Sir, In Consequence of the above resolve, I am to desire you will repair forthwith to Albany, and assume the Command of all the Continental troops, and Militia posted there and to the northward and Westward, of that City, Fort Schuyler exclusive, where Colonel Gansevoort has a particular Commission from Congress to command. In Case of any sudden irruption of the enemy, either upon the Mohack River, or upper parts of Hudson's River, or Settlements thereunto adjacent, you are hereby empowered to call for such of the Militia of the Grants, of the Counties of Hampshire, and Berkshire, in the State of Massachusets, and from the western and northern Counties of the State of Newyork; as will enable you to repel every hostile invasion thereof. Upon your arrival at Albany, you will open a Correspondence with the Commanding Officer at Fort Schuyler, with General Fellows, and the Commanding Officer upon the Grants; and you will constantly report your proceedings to me, and acquaint me with all the information, and Intelligence, you may from time to time receive of the motions and Designs of the enemy. Your Letters should be addressed to me or Officer commanding the Army in northern Department at Pecks Kill. For very good reasons, you will see it is prudent not to communicate the Contents of this Letter, to any but those persons whom it may immediately concern. I am Dear Sir Your affectionate humble Servant

Horatio Gates.

Honble. Brigadier General Stark.

(Copy)

[No. 1291.]

Colonel Taylor Brings his Troubles to the Governor—Difficulty in Procuring Teams.

Newburgh, April 17th 1778.

Dear Governor, I Send you the Iron Chist by the Sergt. of your own Guard. There is a great Call for Teams, and I am Sensable there will be more Call soon than has been for some time past, there is neither Committe Man nor Majestrate to apply to. The few Cont'l Teams here are entirely beat out, and I am not furnished with the act adopted by the Legislature for raising Teams in the State. The 15 Inst. I applied to Major Genl. McDougle and he Sent me a Warrent to Impress Six Teams for Coll. Vanschaick's Regt. on their way to Head Quarters. If any other Call Should be (which I Hourly Expect) the Business will be Retarded. And you are Sensable I have no way to Raise any. Would be glad your Excellancy would furnish me with the Act of the Legislature for that purpose. It gives me pain to see our Business so backward. I likewise Send you five Blank Books and One Music Book with the Bearer which he will deliver. I will call to Se your Excellancy as Soon as possable. And am with the Outmost Esteem Your Excellancy's Most Obdt. Hble Serv't

And'w Taylor, D. Q. M. Genrl.

G: Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1292.]

THE COURT OF GENERAL GAOL DELIVERY.

Report of Its Proceedings Submitted to Governor Clinton.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the State of New York, General and Commander in Chief of all the militia and Admiral of the navy of the same:

We, John Jay Chief Justice of the Supream Court of Judicature of the State of New York, John Sloss Hobart one of the

Puisne Judges of the said Court and Ephraim Paine first Judge of the inferior Court of common Pleas for the County of Dutchess named with others in a certain Commission bearing date the thirteenth Day of March last for holding Courts of Oyer and Terminer and General Goal Delivery in and for the said County, Do certify, that at the said Courts held before us at Poukeepsie on the thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth, Sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth Days of April, Instant, Daniel Morgan late of Northeast Precinct, Yeoman, was convicted of Horse Stealing, Gideon Simkins of Fredericksburgh Precinct, Yeoman, was convicted of Burglary; Daniel Cornell of the Precinct last aforesaid, Yeoman, was convicted of Burglary and Horse stealing and Samuel Jenkins of Philipses Precinct, Yeoman, was also convicted of Burglary;—all of whom we beg leave to recommend to your Excellency for Pardons for the following Reasons

Daniel Cornell. Because we are informed and believe that his Confession, by which alone he was convicted was extorted from him by force. He is about nineteen years of age.

Daniel Morgan. Because we are informed and believe that his Confession was made on a Promise of the Committee of Fredericksburgh to save him. He is about eighteen years of Age.

Gideon Simkins. Because we are informed and believe that his Confession was made on a Promise of the Committee of Fredericksburgh Precinct to save him.

Samuel Jenkins. Because it appeared in Evidence and we believe that his Behavior heretofore hath always been innocent and his Character reputable. There is also reason to believe that he was deluded by the Arts of William Smith a notorious Villain his Demeanor on his Tryal was candid and decent.

We also inform your Excellency that at the said Courts,

William Smith of Beekmans Precinct Cordwainer was convicted of Burglary on two Indictments.

Myndert Harris of the same Precinct Yeoman was also convicted of Burglary on one Indictment.

Jonathan Ackerly of Cortlandts Manor in the County of Westchester Yeoman was convicted on two Indictments of Burglary.

And that we know of no Reasons sufficient to induce us t think it our Duty to recommend them to your Excellency fo Pardon.

Your Excellency will be pleased to observe that Fryday ne between the Hours of Eight and Two is assigned for the exec tion of all the herein before named Criminals.

John Jay.
Jno. Sloss Hobart.
Ephraim Paine.

Poughkeepsie April 18th 1778.

A Calender of Prisoners capitally convicted at the Court Oyer and Terminer and General Goal Delivery held at Poug keepsie in and for the County of Dutchess—April 13th 1778.

William Smith of Beekman's Precinct in the County of Dutch Cordwainer.

Indicted for a Burglary in the House of Jacob Baldwin in Ru bout's Precinct in the County aforesaid on the 22d Novem'r la Convicted 17th April 1778.

Indicted also for a Burglary in the House of Daniel Way Beekman's Precinct aforesaid. Convicted April 18th 1778. B glary comitted 5th Decem'r last.

Myndert Harris of Beekman's Precinct Yeoman.

Indicted for a Burglary in the House of Daniel Way in Be man's Precinct aforesaid. Convicted April 18th 1778. Burgl committed 5th Dec'r last.

Daniel Morgan of North East Precinct in the County Dutchess Yeoman.

Indicted for Horse stealing vizt· a Gelding of a Chestnut C of the Price of £40 from William Brush and a Mare of a Br Color of the like Price from James Pugsley in Amenia Preci and a Gelding of a Bay Color of the Price of £60 from E Thompson in Charlotte Precinct in the County aforesaid. C victed April 16th 1778.

Gideon Simpkins of Fredericksburgh Precinct in the Cou aforesaid Yeoman.

Indicted for a Burglary in the House of Heman King in Fredericksburgh Precinct on the 5th Jan'y last. Convicted April 15th 1778.

Jonathan Ackerly of Cortlandt's Manor in the County of West Chester Yeoman.

Indicted for a Burglary in the House of Russell Gregory in Fredericksburgh Precinct on the 27th July last. Convicted April 16th 1778.

Indicted also for a Burglary in the House of Stephen Hyatt in the said Precinct on the 27th July last. Convicted April 17th 1778.

Daniel Cornell of Fredericksburgh Precinct aforesaid Yeoman.

Indicted for a Burglary in the House of Solomon Hopkins in Fredericksburgh Precinct aforesaid. Also for stealing a Gelding of Bay Color of the Price of £50 from Johathan Hopkins in the same Precinct. Both Felonies committed 28th March last & the Prisoner convicted of both April 16th 1778.

Samuel Jenkins of Philipse's Precinct in the County aforesaid Labourer.

Indicted for a Burglary in the House of Jacob Baldwin in Rumbout's Precinct aforesaid on the 22d Nov'r last. Convicted April 17th 1778.

[No. 1293.]

ALBANY IN A STATE OF SEMI-PANIC.

The Governor, However, Promises to Call Together the Council of Appointment to Expedite Militia Appointments.

April 16th Aprill 1778.

D'r Sir, I have your favor (without Date I Supose of the 13th) Before me with the [———]* Included.

I am happy to find that the Fortifications in the High Lands are in so Promising a way.

Being sent for and now with the Committee; who are alarmed at the Situation this County is to be in when the Continantle

*Indecipherable.

Troops (now under orders) are gone: above 140 Prisonners in the Goal and in the Fort, Besides a Number of Brittish the Physical Part thereof have already render'd themselves verry Suspetious by their former Conduct.

The Stores in and about this City will be Left open to the Intrigues of the disaffected who are Continually Robing the well affected, and should they be able to Risque the Prisonners out of the Goal, and Fort, the Consequence might be Dreadfull. The militia Rased under Coll. Beekman (the State militia) Consist of about 140 Rank and file all upon Command (Except 19) Either to Hartford or on Fetigue Parties. The Committees preparing to Resign the Business; the Civil Magestrates not Qualified for want of the oath act and the militia Law not yet arrived. From Such a Complication of Difficulties: they I find are preparing to give you a State and to wait your Direction.

Was you to Receive a letter from the Committe of Tryon County I Suppose they would Express their apprehensions in Terms Equally Shocking.

I feel for you & know that you have Trouble Enough for Six Good Heads: was I able I would advise but it is my misfortune Seldom to think right in military matters. I Beg leave, however, to Suggest to you wether it would not be proper to Inlist a parcel of light militia (or Rangers) in this and Tryon County to be under the Direction of the Commissioners for Detecting Conspiracies to be march'd out to Quell the Tories.

As to Troops Necessary to be kept in this city you may be your Judge when you Call to mind that all the Stores and Prisonners are here.

Mr. Blaar Shewed me your answer to his Petition in which you mention you will Exchange Mr. *White* for *Miller*. I Suspect you

aade a mistake in writing *White* when meant *Blare*, if so please o Inform me—if not wether you mean to Suffer Blaar to be Exchanged and the famely you will have in Return. I Remain Your rery Humble Ser't

Ab'm Yates Jun.

His Ex. George Clinton.

Poughkeepsie 18th April 1778.

D'r Sir, As Judge Hobart who is to be the Bearer of this Letter is to set out early in the Morning for Albany, I will not be able to answer yours of the 16th Instant as particularly as I coud wish, which oblidges me to refer you to the inclosed to your Mayor as Chairman of the Committee of Albany which I have left open and begg when you have read it you will Seal and deliver it. I trust you will be of Oppinion that I have hitherto omitted no Means in my Power for the Safety of Albany & the Northern & Western Frontiers. And you may rest assured that every future Measure which may be in my Power for their Safety shall be punctually attended to. I flatter myself you have at least the Oath Bill by this Time & if the Militia Law is printed it shall be forwarded to you by Mr. McKesson who also sets out for Albany Tomorrow. The seven hundred Men I am authorized to raise for the Defence of the state being already ordered out it will not be in my Power to raise a Company to be under the Commissioners of Conspiracies but if Greighton's or Alden's Regiments are left in Albany it will not be so necessary. I am your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

The Honble Mr. Yates.

So many Inconveniences arise for want of the Militia appointments being compleated, that I am constrained to summon a Council to meet at this Place the *first Day* of next Month for that Pur

pose and must request your attendance accordingly. And let me begg of you to procure & bring with you the Returns of Tryon County Militia & the rem'r of Genl. Tenbroeck's Brigade. I wish you also to notify Mr. Webster of this Meeting.

P. S. I meant to exchange White for Miller & Blare & his Familly for any other Person & Familly for which he coud have an Exchange settled, tho I do not mean to give myself much Trouble about the Matter as he is little entituled to it, having on his Way hither been guilty of blabing Tory Sentim'ts little becoming a Man suing for favour.

[No. 1294.]

Governor Clinton Calls General McDougall's Attention to the Situation.

Poughkeepsie 18th April 1778.

D'r Sir, I am not a little surprized and alarmed to learn by Genl. Conway who is now with me & will deliver you this that all the Continental Troops at Albany & in that Quarter are ordered from thence this Way, Warner's Regiment at Albany, & Gansevoort's at Fort Schuyler excepted. By which means the large stores of every kind which we have there & our Extensive Frontiers will lay much exposed not only to the Common Enemy who, if they shoud be joined by any of the Indian Tribes, & the Contrary is no ways certain, will be too formidable for the Miltia to resist, but also to Internal Enemies who abound in that Country. I observe by the Orders for the Removal of these Troops, Col. James Livingston's Regt. who are now with you was to have continued at Johnstown. Considering this I am clearly of Oppinion that either Alden's or Greighton's Regiment now ordered down ought to continue in its Stead and I am by no

means clear that both might not be well employed in that Quarter. There are above 150 State Prisoners confined in Albany Goal, besides there are a Number of British Invalids at that Place. I refer you to Genl. Conway for further Particulars, relative to the state of our affairs in that Part of the Country & begg your answer as soon as may be on this Subject as the Inhabitants are greatly alarmed at the Order for removing all the Troops from Albany on whom they can place any dependence. I am Your most Obed't Serv't

G. C.

To Genl. McDougal.

[No. 1295.]

CLINTON TO CONWAY.

Fears the Frontier People Will Move in, Unless Troops are Sent to Protect Them—Position of Food Supply Depots.

Poukeepsie April 18th 1778.

Sir. I am favoured with your Letters of the 8th & 11th Instant with their Inclosures. I am apprehensive the Inhabitants on the Frontiers of Tryon County and Schohary will move in, unless a Company or two of Continental Troops under good officers are sent there to act with the Militia I have ordered to be raised for their Protection. I think therefore some small Part of the Continental Troops shood be assignd for that Service as a Desertion of the Frontiers will be attended with many bad Consequences.

The Flour purchased by the Commissary in Ulster County had ter be stored in that County in small Parcels, some Distance k from the River, where as the Inhabitants of that County generally well affected, it will be safe, nor will it so disposed

of be an Object worth the Enemy's attention. I think no greater Quantity of Provission shoud be collected and stored in Albany than sufficient to support the Troops which may be stationed there; whatever more the Commissary shall have purchased & now lying near the River shoud by all means be removed to Places Places of safety at a distance from it but not so far as unecesarilly to increase the Cartage when wanted. I have consulted Genl. McDougal who agrees with me in Sentiments respecting this Matter.

I have directed the Commanding Officer of the Militia of Tryon County with the advice of the other Field Officers to set about raising to Companies immediatly for the Defence of their Frontiers & to point out to me such Officers as will be the most proper to Command them. It will give me Pleasure should Mr. Harper be one of them; but as I have referred the matter to the Field Officers & it is necessary the People shoud have the greatest Confidence in the Men appointed, I woud not wish to make any appointments until I have their answer.

We want four long 12 or 18 Pounders for the Gun Boats at this Place. They are not to be mounted on Trucks but Sliders. If Major Stevens has any such I wish they may be ordered down to this Place as I expect the Boats will be ready to receive them next week.

Mr. Hays the British Surgeon has not so complied with the Resolutions of Congress as to entitle him to Leave to Go to N. York and as I believe him to be an artful man, his anxiety to go in is a strong Reason with me why he shoud not at present. Indeed it is not prudent to suffer any Communication between the Country & City & therefore, he or any other Person will not be suffered to pass our Posts for some Time to come. These

Gentry must be contented to remain in the Country untill a genl. Exchange takes place. I am Sir with great Regard Your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Major Genl. Conway at Albany.

[No. 1296.]

THE GOVERNOR WRITES ASSURINGLY TO BARCLAY.

Militia Officers Responsible for Delays—Disposition of the 700 Men to be Raised for the Defense of the State.

Poughkeepsie 18th April 1778.

Sir, Your two Letters both dated the 16th Instant were delivered to me this Evening by General Conway. I am no less surprized than concerned to learn that all the Continental Troops Warner's Regiment excepted are ordered from Albany and I have this Moment wrote to Genl. McDougal requesting that Greighton's or Alden's Regiment or both may continue with you, representing in the strongest Terms the exposed State the Stores in your City & and the Northern & Western Frontiers will be in, as well from the Common Enemy, as the hostile Indian Tribes & Internal Foes shoud my Request be not complied with. Of the 700 Men I was impowered to raise for the Defence of the State I have ordered one Company of 60 men Including Non Commissioned Officers to be raised in Charlotte & stationed in that Quarter, two to consist each of the same Number to be raised in Tryon County & stationed on its Western Frontier, & one other of 34 in Schohary to be stationed in that Neighbourhood, which I trust you will be of Oppinion was doing as much for your safety as in my Power. I have long since wrote my Opinion to the Commanding Officer at Albany that the British

Prisoners shoud be removed to the Eastward which I am happy to learn from Genl. Conway has been done & that none but Invalids not proper to remove now remain among you. I have also advised the Removal of the principal Stores & Magazines.

The Neglect of the Militia Officers in making Returns to the Council of Appointment has prevented making the necessary appointments and has left the Militia in the same bad Condition it has hitherto been by which we shall continue to be deprived of a Strenghth with which we ought defy Danger on any Sudden Emergency were it properly Officered & aranged. You may rest assured, Sir, that I will continue attentive to your Safety & that no means will be neglected by me for that Purpose. I have the Honor to be Your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Worshipful John Barclay Esqr.

[No. 1297.]

Colonel Graham Hobnobs with Tories.

Phillipbourrough, Aprill 18 1778.

Hon'd Sir, Since I Came to this Post several of our friends below have applied to me for permits to take some Creatures for the support of their families. I have permitted (with the advice of Coll. Hammon & Mr. Yongs) some of them to pass among the Rest; I have permitted one pr of working Cattle for Olfiver De Lancey, Jun'r, upon his promising to use his Interest to prevent our friends being Distresed in the Bourrough where we have many valuable ones, which I have Experienced since I Came here. Received a Letter from Mr. Delancy profesing Great frendship for his Country & the Cause; he assisted getting a permit for person to go to New York by my Desire under pretence of pr

mreing some Necessaries for myself who Returnd Last night with Intelligence which I have forward'd to Major Genl. McDougall. Shall be very Glad to know your Excellencies Sentiments on my Conduct as above Recited. I am with Respect Your Exellen's most obedient & very Humble Serv't

Morris Graham Coll. M.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 1298.]

Captain Post Brings Information in Regard to an Alleged Tory Conspiracy.

Fishkill, April 19th 1778.

Sir, I have the Honour to inclose your Excellency a Letter from Mr. Erskine, by the Bearer, for £3860 as P acco't which Mr. Gordon will exhibit. As I do not think myself authorized to meddle with it, unless it be by your Excellency's Order, I have referred him to you Sir, and beg leave to acquaint you that, if I have your Excellency's Order, in Writing, I can settle it with Certificates, on being reimbursed by an Order on the Military Chest. I am, Sir, with the greatest Respect & Esteem Your Most Obedient

H. Hughes.

P. S. -Capt. Post waits on your Excellency also, concerning a Couple of Villians lately committed to Poughkeepsie Goal for onspiring to burn the Houses, & barns at Fredericksburg, now ccupied for the use of the Continent. It seems they have made ome Confession, or impeach'd each of them to Capt. Post, which acquainted the General of, who requested that Post might be nt for, to give such Information, as the case may require & he

knows, least such attrocious offenders should escape, and the public Stores fall a sacrifice to their Villany. I am as before, Your most Obt.

H. H.

His Excellency Governor Clinton Poughkeepsie.

[No. 1299.]

THE WYOMING MASSACRE.

Evidence to Show it was Planned as far Back as February, 1778—Tory and Indian Plots.

The Deposition of the following Persons made before the Committee of Mamacotten Precinct April the 17th 1778: Josiah Parks being Duly sworn, Deposeth and saith: That about the midle of Feb'y Last past Cap't John so Called—a Tuskarora Indian was coming thro the woods to go to one Robt. Lands at Cashithtown and being overtaken with fear, turn'd about from Said Lands to Shohauken and imploy'd one John Harris to go to said Lands with an Express of Letters for said Land to go to York with, and soon after said Land went off and is not yet appear'd Home or been seen here since, and that the Tories says the said Land is gone to New York and they are afraid he is taken. The said deponent farther saith that by the best Information he can get of one Dav'd Vaneveran of Shohaukan is, That the Indians and Tories mean to strike first on Sisqueannah about Wyomah [Wyoming] and take that place first; with the Number of four thousand men, and then come through to the North River. The same Deponent farther saith that Francis Elswert told him not to tell the Damn'd Rebels at Cashithtown about the plot for fear they would move off. Said Elswert sells provision to the Indians and takes Orders on the Kings Quarter-master for pay. The said

eponent farther saith that Francis Elswert; Nathan Parks; arton De Witt; and Hank Bush, are gone to the Indians.

The Evidence of Joseph Gordens is as follows. He says he eard Francis Elswert and Joseph Gooding—Both of Shohawken —Say that they would Come about five Weeks hence with the ndians and Tories to take all the Wigs at Cashithtown,—Namely—Bezaleel Tyler; John Lashly; in short all the Wigs. And the persons which would not be hurt that were Kings men. Viz. Joseph Ross, Nath'l Michel, Brian Cain, one Allan, Robt. Land, Dan'l Skinner, Jonas Wood, Haggai Skinner. The said Deponent farther saith that the said Elswert and Said Gooding are going Back and forwards to the Indians Greatest part of the time: And the Indians are among them Great part of the time and that he has seen the Indians among them—they seem to be of one mind and opininon and agree very well.

May it please your Excellency, We of the Mamacotten Precinct ind part of Goshen Precinct that took the Deposition of the iforesaid Deponents took it under Character of Committee 'tho re are not certain wether the power and use of Committee be iot expired now the Magistracy has taken place. Nevertheless re thought it our Duty to the State, as well as Safety to our elves to take from under Oath the Deposition of persons filled 'ith the Greatest Anxiety and fear of their Persons and Familes illing a Prey to their worse than Savage Neighbours. And we eg Leave to Lay before your Excellency this their and our Situaon from this Diabolical Plot which we have Reason to beleive or it is the opininon of most of the Inhabitants both of this and range County about the Minnisink that our Enemy is more

formidable and our danger Greater than from last Years Design. One of the Deponents Declared on Oath that 300 Men would not be sufficient to take them, so great their Numbers and Beg'd it to be kept Secret for Should it Transpire before help they would be on them and us before we could Remove. We Beg you Excellencys acceptance Judgment and Consideration of the Premises.

And beg Leave to assure your Excellency we are Devoted to your Commands.

In behalf of the Inhabitants Mention'd

J. R. D'Witt.
Philip Swartwoud.
Benjamin Depuy.

Peenpeck Mamacotten precinct 19th April 1778.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esqr., Governor.

[No. 1300.]

General McDougall Not Disposed to Concede All Governor Clinton's Demands.

Fish Kills 19th April 1778.

Sir, I am honored with your Favor of yestarday. The Letters I received from the Commander in chief, preceding the one on which your Opinion was asked informed me of Vanschaick's, Hazen's & Livingston's Regiment being ordered to this Post. When Graton's & Alden's were ordered to repair here, 'tis prob-
directed Livingston's from Johnstown, was for-
it Order from the Board of war was founded on
.on's importunity to have them all down, with
iestion stated to us. If I should be mistaken in
ı, & any misfortune should happen to this Post,

by the Absence of those two Regiments, my Superiors will make me answerable for the Event. I cannot therefore consent to let both those Corps remain at Albany. But as Livingston's is here, the Spirit of the Order & the Condition of Albany will justify me in leaving Alden's Regt. there, till Livingston's can be sent up. This is the safest Line of Conduct I can pursue, which I hope will give Satisfaction as far as it is in my power. I am Sir your humble Servant

Alex'r McDougall.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 1301.]

General James Clinton Recommends the Release of Caleb Hyatt—Work Suspended at West Point.

West Point 19th April 1778.

D'r Brother, Inclosed you have a Letter I rec'd from Col. Hathorn relative to a certain Caleb Hayett who was taken the begining of last Winter, by some of our Guards near Bergen, when he says that he was leaveing the Enemy and comeing to us; as I belive nothing more will appear against him than what has concerning the Crimes he hath allready comemited, I think he had better be with his Family than where he is; however you will act as you Judge best; the bearor I belive waits on you to try to have Hayett set at liberty.

The Militia were discharged yesterday agreeable to orders. The Enemy weigh'd Anchor on Friday last about 4 O'Clock P. M. and with a fair wind soon went out of sight. Yesterday our Guard Boats proceeded down to Tarry Town. I expect the earliest notice of the Enemy's motions by them. Our Fort is now allmost at a stand since the departure of the Militia. I hope you'll not detain them long; the different Regts. are at the

Redoubts. My Comp'ts to the Ladies; let them know the Children are like to get well through the small Pox. I have Just now heard from them. I am Yours Affectionatly &c.

James Clinton.

[To Gov. George Clinton.]

[No. 1302.]

The Monument to Herkimer—The Committee Defers to Governor Clinton.

Tryon County 20th of April 1778.

May it please your Excellency, We had the honour of receiving a Letter some time since under your Signature with an inclos'd Copy of a Resolve of Congress for erecting a Monument to the Memory of our Late Brave General, & also a Copy of a Letter from the Honbl. John Handcock, president of Congress to your Excellency respecting the same. Our sorrow at the loss of that Gallant Gentleman seems somewhat aleviated when we consider the Honour done his memory by that Honourable Body.

We Cordially concur with the honourable president of Congress in thinking that such marks of distinction shewn to the memory of those Heroes which sacrifice their Lives in the cause of their Country may tend to animate others to tread in their paths.

We are highly sensible of the honour done us by your Excellency in Refering to us the determination of the manner & spot of erecting it. Agreeable to your recommendation we have consulted the Widow & Friends of the General (which necessarily occasioned some delay in answering) & find it their opinion to have it [illegible] Yellow Church in Connejoharrie. As to the [illegible] they & we are so little acquainted with

things of the kind that we must refer it to the Superior Judgment of your Excellency & the Council the Time & manner of his sacrifising his Life You are doubtless acquainted with as it was published in the News Papers. We have the honour of being Yours Excellencies Most Humble Servants.

By Order of Committee

Moses Younglove, Chairman protemp.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

Governor of the State of New York &c. &c.

[No. 1303.]

GATES IN COMMAND OF THE NORTHERN DEPARTMENT.

The Alleged Proposition on the Part of England to Recognize the Independence of the Colonies.

York Town 20 April 1778.

Sir, My last was dated 31st March by Green. This morning I had the honour of presenting to Congress Your Excellency's favor of the 7th Inst.* together with the Proclamation which came inclosed—these are referred to a special Committee.

Under this Cover Your Excellency will be pleased to receive an Act of Congress of the 15th Inst. for appointing General Gates to the Command of the whole Northern department & authorizing him to call for Militia from New York & the Eastern States &c. In the General's Instructions he is directed when convenient to confer with & take Your Excellency's advice & assistance.

General Howe is now circulating as far as his own & the power of his Emissaries extend a Paper said to have been received by the February Packet, but printed in Philadelphia, 'titled

* See pages 145-146.

"Draught of a Bill (Private)

for declaring the intentions of the Parliament of Great Britain concerning the exercise of the Right of imposing Taxes within His Majesties Colonies Provinces & Plantations in North America."

"Draught of a Bill to enable his Majesty to appoint Commissioners with sufficient Powers to treat consult & agree upon the means of quieting the disorders now subsisting in certain of the Colonies Plantations & Provinces in North America."

"Whereas the exercise of the Right of Taxation by the Parliament for the purpose of raising a Revenue has occasioned disorder, &c.—It is expedient to Declare that the K & P. will not impose any Duty &c. for the purpose of Revenue, except for the Regulation of Commerce &c. the N't produce to be applied for the use of the Colony in which the same shall be respectively levied—Commissioners to be appointed by His Majesty & authorized to treat with Body & Bodies political & Corporate with Assembly or Assemblies of men—Person or Persons—to proclaim a Cessation of Hostilities— to suspend the operation of the Act of 16th Geo 3d prohibiting Trade & Intercourse—to suspend for time all the Acts relative to the Colonies passed since 10th febry. 1763—to grant pardons to any number or description of persons to fill up Vacancies in the Offices of Governors & Commanders in Chief in the Colonies" &c. &c.

The last article is nugatory & must have arisen from their ignorance that every place is full.

I need not trouble Your Excellency with my sentiments on this

I differ with Gentlemen who suppose the performance originated under authority in England; it appears to me to be destitute of the most essential marks; if the MS., crossed the Atlantic it must have been the production of a Jacob Henriques or a Moses Lindo. I believe it to be of Philadelphia manufacture probably under hints from the other side of the Water & sent abroad like a Sibyl's Letter—'tis not improbable I may be obtruding a subject, which before this can reach Your Excellency will be known at large; be that as it may, if I can possibly obtain a Copy of the whole draught it shall accompany this for although I think it should be treated with contempt—yet not silent contempt—it is at present in the hands of some Gentlemen who will exert their Talents in stricturizing.

Your Excellency will have heard of the seperation of the Commissioners for establishing a Cartel, the conduct & determinations of the Gentlemen who appeared on our part is highly applauded by Congress,—will do themselves honour & our Cause, service. I have the honour to be with the greatest Esteem & regard Sir Your Excellency's obedient & most hum. Serv't

Henry Laurens, President of Congress.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

In Congress April 15th 1778.

Resolved, That General Gates be directed forthwith to repair to Fish Kill on Hudson's River and take the Command of all the Troops which now are, or shall be collected and stationed at the Posts on that River, and in the whole Northern Department; and immediately take effectual measures to secure the Communication with the Eastern States by maintaining the Possession of Hudson's River; and for that Purpose, that he be empowered to provide such a Number of Gallies, Gunboats, Firerafts, Chains, Cas-

scons and Chevaux-de-frize, and errect such Fortifications as he may judge necessary, taking care that the Fortifications be not too extensive; and also to carry on Operations against the Enemy if any favorable occasions should offer.

That to enable him to carry into Execution the Purposes aforementioned, General Gates be authorised to call for Militia and artificers from the States of New-York, Connecticut, Massachusets Bay, and New Hampshire, and in case the Enemy shall evacuate Rhode-Island, from that State also. And it is hereby earnestly recommended to the said States to afford every assistance in their Power, as well in sending forth their militia in such Numbers and for such time as General Gates shall think proper, as in furnishing artificers, materials and other Necessaries for fortifying and obstructing the said River.

That General Gates be directed from time to time to afford every assistance in his Power, in forwarding the Draughts and other Reinforcements destined for the main army.

Messrs. Gouverneur Morris of New York, Francis Dana of Massachusetts and William Duer of New York were appointed a committee to prepare a draft of instructions for General Gates.

[No. 1304.]

THE DIFFICULT MILITARY PROBLEM AT ALBANY.

General McDougall's Specific Orders to General Conway in Regard to the Disposition of His Force.

Head Quarters Fish-Kills April 21st 1778.

Sir, The important Stores at Albany; and the present State of the works on Hudson's River will not give them Security. And the bringing down Graton's and Alden's Regiments to these Posts

-o expose the Stores of various Kinds in that City, that it is
-ient now to remove those Corps to the Highlands. These
i-rations together with the apprehensions from the Indians
-ther Emissaries of the Enemy render it necessary for the
-al Service, that you repair to Albany; to pursue the measures
-mended by the Board of warr respecting Colonel Warner's
ment and Whitcomb's Rangers, as well as to take the Com-
l there, untill Congress shall order an Officer for that Depart-
: For I am not advised whether its their Intention to keep
Northern Department separate from this or not. But the
liar Circumstances of that part of the Country and the public
-s, obliges me to give this attention to them, altho it deviates
the strict Letter of the Orders of the Board of warr; least I
ld be charged with Want of Discretion to the general Con-
s of the Continent; Altho my present Force demands the
stance of those Corps. You will please to take the most effec-
measures to call in the Officers and men of those two Regi-
ts, and not suffer any Furloughs to be given to either, but in
s of the most urgent Necessity. If any Emergency should
which will render it necessary, to detach for the Relief of
Schuyler; or to make small outposts, it must be done from
nel Alden's Regiment, as if Colonel Livingston's was above;
his Corps was ordered here by the Commander in chief and
red before the last arrangement to detain it at Johns-Town.
nel Graton's will be kept at Albany and in Readiness to em-
: or march here as Occasion shall require on the shortest
ce. At all Events Colonel Graton's must not be sent from
ny unless its ordered to the Highlands. From the Informa-
re me of the lax manner in which Provision and Rum
out at Albany and the Posts above, I must beg your

attention to remove those abuses, as farr as it shall be in your power. It will greatly contribute to the Defence of the Country, should the Enemy make any Excursion into it, to consult in Time, with the Officers of the militia, and those who are well acquainted in the Country, where it will be proper to assemble and order the different Corps of Militia, as Occasion shall require.

(Copy)

Major General Conway.

[No. 1305.]

Thomas Palmer Asks for a License for Captain Pinkham to Export Corn.

Sir,—The Bearer hereof, Capt. Paul Pinkham, of the Island of Nantucket came into this Country with Mr. Caleb Coffin in the year 1774, and Continued Trading in this Country that year and the year 75, at which Time I became perfectly Acquainted with him and his political Sentiments, which at that time were very friendly to the Liberties of America. He will Inform your Excellency that he has a Vessel with a Small Cargo of Salt in Norfolk Harbour in Connecticut which on acc't of an Imbargo law against the Transportation of Provision of any kind out of that State he is Oblidged to apply to this State to Barter the Same for Provisions Such as flour &c. His Coming by water (however honest) may Cause Suspitions; it, therefore, would be rather Imprudent for any Commissioner to Licence him to Carry out flour altho he Should Bring in the Salt. I am of Opinion that in Such Case it ought to be by Special Licence from your Excellency. He has therefore Requested me (as he is a Stranger) to write to your Excellency in his Behalf. I have mentioned above what I know of his Personal Charracter—and by the papers in his Hands I

believe his Design is honest. Besides your Excellency will naturally Conceive that our Friends on that Island must (from their Situation) be in great Necessaty for Provisions. I am with Due Respect Your Excellency's Most Obedient & most humble Serv't

Thos. Palmer.

New Burgh 21st April 1778.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr. &c. &c.

[No. 1306.]

THE ESCAPE OF WALTER BUTLER.

Colonel Vrooman Patriotically Raises His Quota for the Defence of the State, and Starts After the Exempts.

Albany 21st Aprill 1778.

D'r Sir, I am just now applied to by Coll. Vrooman for an Explanation on that part of your order Dated the 6th Instant. After you have Said that the men are to be Entiteld to Continantle pay and Rations you Refer him for the Bounty to an act Intiteld "an act for Rasing Seven hundred men to be Employ'd in the Defence of this State."

He will not be able to finish the Rasing the men (or reather he will not be able to Levy the Tax on the Exempts) Untill he has Copy of that Law which you will be pleased to favour him with—he Says he has the men Nearly Engaged and Expects that in a Day or two after he Receives the act he will have the men Compleat. He Recommends Lt. Johannes Dietz for the Officer agreable to your Directions. He also Stands much in Need of the Militia Law.

News we have none, Except a Disagreable Tale about the

escape of Mr. Butler* who went off, I thinck, a Saturday Night. and if he should get again it would be a Lucky Circumstance but I am afraid it will not be the Case. My Compliments to Mrs. Clinton & the old Lady. I Remain Your very Hum'e S't

Ab'm Yates, Jun.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1307.]

General McDougall Sorely Troubled Over Military Perplexities.

Fish Kill April 22d 1778.

Dear Sir, I was honored with your favor of the 19th current enclosing General Schyler's Letter and others for Congress &c. which were forwarded yesterday. I have determined to send Colonel Conway to Albany for the reasons contained in the inclosed copy of his orders. If any accident Happens to these papers, my reputation will be ruined, and if the stores above,

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* Walter Butler belonged to a particularly brutal type of man. He was the son of Colonel John Butler who, at the outbreak of the war, was Lieutenant Colonel of Guy Johnson's Tryon County Militia Regiment. Col. Marinus Willett, who was named by the Indians, because of the rapidity and success of all his movements, Sa-ge-ya-ta-ha, succeeded, with Major Stockwell, in passing through the enemy's lines and reaching Fort Schuyler, and covered some forty or fifty miles, through swamps and dense woods in order to reach Fort Dayton, which was then commanded by Col. Willett. Learning that Gen. Schuyler had ordered Generals Arnold and Larned with a Massachusetts brigade to the relief of Col. Gansevoort, who was beleaguered at Fort Schuyler by St. Leger, started for Albany in order to meet General Arnold, who was also concerned in the relief expedition.

During his absence, a secret meeting of Tories gathered at the residence of a Mr. Fonda who had held a commission under George III. Weston promptly detached a number of troops who surrounded the premises and captured every one of the conspirators. Among them was Lieutenant Walter Butler, who with fourteen white followers of St. Leger's army and a similar number of Indians, had gone among his old acquaintances on the German Flatts to persuade them to join the King's forces, then burning and plundering. At the moment the American troops entered, Butler was delivering a violent harangue. Arnold regarded him as a spy and ordered a court martial at which Willett officiated as Judge Advocate. Butler was convicted and sentenced to death, but owing to the influence of a large number of officers who had met him while he was studying law at Albany, his life was spared by a reprieve. Butler was taken to Albany and closely guarded, until the following spring, when in consequence of his ill health, and through the influence of many Tory friends of the Butler family, he was transferred to a private residence, where he gave his parole. From this residence he was permitted to escape, through treachery, it was alleged, as the guards who were watching him fell asleep from the effects of over indulgence in intoxicating liquors. After a career of bloodshed unparalleled in the history of the Western Hemisphere, he was shot by an Indian friendly to the Americans and scalped [illegible] mercy—mercy that he was never known to bestow upon [illegible] his hands.—STATE HISTORIAN.

which are very capital, should be destroyed, if I suffered the Troops to come down I would be Censured. In short, my situation in this command make me exceedingly miserable, and I fear will end in my destruction. If leisure permits I wish to see you on some late intelligence of a very important nature, from New York. It is with reluctance I send you the Prisoners mentioned in the inclosures, but our Prevost's Guard is full. Time will only permit me to add that I am Dear Sir, Your affectionate H'ble Servant

Alex'r McDougall.

Governor Clinton.

[No. 1308.]

Governor Clinton Reports to Washington the Danger and Uncovered Condition of Albany.

Poukeepsie April 22d 1778.

Dear Sir, Tho' the removal of a considerable Part of the Troops that were stationed at Albany to the Posts in the Highlands appeared to be a Measure expedient and absolutely necessary, I am nevertheless very apprehensive, that the withdrawing all the Troops from that Quarter (Gansevoort's and Warner's Regiments excepted) which I learn by a Resolve of Congress is to be the Case may be attended with bad Consequences, especially while the Disposition of several of the Indian Tribes, if not known to be hostile, is at least very doubtful, and from our weak State there may be fixed against us. We have large quantities of Stores of every kind in Albany and its vicinity. The Enemy are not without some Troops in Canada. They are Masters of the Lakes, and should they, aided by the Indians, be disposed to make Incursions into this State, they might do us infinite Mischief before a force, sufficient to oppose them, could be collected. Gansevoort's Regiment is stationary, and Warner's, weak undis-

ciplined and, as General Conway informs me, unarmed; The Militia, therefore, is all we have to rely on, and they consider themselves as deserted & are already moving in, and leaving the most fertile Parts of the Country uninhabited. That Department being also without any particular Person to command in it contributes greatly to the Discouragement of the Inhabitants. I have ordered out about 300 militia in that Quarter, but the Northern & Western Frontiers are so very extensive that this small force must necessarily be much divided. I am with great Respect Your Excellency's most Obed't & very humble Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

His Excellency General Washington.

[No. 1309.]

AN ALARMING REPORT FROM WHITE CREEK.

Colonel Williams Expects a Sortie from the Enemy—Weakness of his Command in Men and Ammunition.

Head Quarters Albany April 22d 1778.

May it please your Excellency, I have just received a Letter from Collo .Williams who commands at White Creek of which the inclosed is a True Copy, & by the Express returning have sent him the Powder & Lead according to his desire. Collo. Warner's Regiment from Bennington arrived here this day, it consists of 140 effective Men. This I send by Express, & beg to know as soon as possible your advice upon the matter—if Genl. Conway is at the Highlands, please to acquaint him with this Intelligence, & a Return of his necessary Orders upon the Occasion. I am Sir Your Excellency's most obedient, most humble Serv't

Jotham Loring, Collo., Command't.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr Governor of the State of New York, High Lands.

White Creek April 22d 1778.

Sir, I am just favored with the Sight of a Line from Major Allen who commands a party of one Hundred Men belonging to the Grants and about 12 miles from Ticonderoga last Saturday about 10 O'Clock in the Forenoon. Also an Officer informs me it may be depended on that there will be 700 of the Enemy in this Town, by Saturday night. He informed me that he was bound not to divulge the Informer, but he was certain it may be depended on, & as my Informant is to be depended on I imagine we may expect them.

My Regiment is now under arms & about to raise the 70 men ordered to range on the Frontiers of this Country—but it will be impossible to get them—There being so many moved off by reason of no Succours on the Frontiers. However we must do the best we can. I shall go out with a Party to recconoitre to morrow and make no doubt but you will hear in a few days of our Proceedings.

I could wish some Troops might be ordered up with all Speed or we must innevitably fall a Victim to the Enemy as it is a Season of the year we cannot possibly move off with that Expedition it will require if the Enemy should come down—and what is still worse there's a scarcity of Ammunition amongst us—therefore must beg you would immediately send me 100 lb. of Powder & 300 lb. of Lead by the Bearer, and I will be answerable for the Like Quantity till we can receive it from the State, & beg you w'd forward a Coppy of this to his Excellency Governor Clinton with all Speed. I am Sir with Sentiments of Esteem Your most obed't humb'e Serv't

Jno. Williams, Collo.

To the Commanding officer at Albany.

A True Copy from the Originial.

[No. 1310.]

Proclamation from Congress for the Reclamation of Those Who Have Been Traitors to the United States.

In Congress, April 23, 1778.

Whereas, Persuasion and Influence, the Example of the Deluded or Wicked, the Fear of Danger, or the Calamities of War, may have induced some of the Subjects of these States to join, aid or abet the *British* Forces in *America*, and who, tho' now desirous of returning to their Duty, and anxiously wishing to be received and reunited to their Country, may be deterred by the Fear of Punishment: And, whereas, the People of these States are ever more ready to reclaim than to abandon, to mitigate than to increase the Horrors of War, to pardon than to punish Offenders:

RESOLVED, That it be recommended to the Legislatures of the several States to pass Laws, or to the Executive Authority of each State, if invested with sufficient Power, to issue Proclamations, offering Pardon, with such Exceptions, and under such Limitations and Restrictions as they shall think expedient, to such of their Inhabitants or Subjects, as have levied War against any of these States, or adhered to, aided or abetted the Enemy, and shall surrender themselves to any Civil or Military Officer of any of these States, and shall return to the State to which they may belong before the 10th Day of *June* next. And it is recommended to the good and faithful Citizens of these States to receive such returning Penitents with Compassion and Mercy, and to forgive and bury in Oblivion their past Failings and Transgressions.

Extract from the Minutes,

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

[No. 1311.]

TO PROTECT THE NORTHERN FRONTIER.

Petition from Inhabitants of the Northern Towns to the Governor to Send Troops to Their Aid—Governor Clinton's Reply.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esq. Governor of the State of New York Captain General & Commander in Chief of the Same &c. &c.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of Saratoga and Cambridge Districts Humbly Sheweth,

That Your Petitioners in order to be out of the Power of the Enemy did, when the army Under Genl. Burgoyne penetrated Into the Country, Remove from their Habitations with Such of their Effects as they Could Convey; that Immediately after the Convention Between Genl. Gates and General Burgoyne, Such of Your Petitioners as Were in a Situation so to do, Returnd to their Plantations, that others of them are but lately Returnd, that all of them are now Engaged in Preparing to Cultivate their farms, for the Subsistance of their families out of the Produce, and for the Support of the armies out of what they may Have to Spare; that as all the troops are Drawn away from the Northern Communication, Your Petitioners are Expos'd to the Incursions of the Savages and their more Savage abetters, the British troops and Tories from Canada, that Your Petitioners have Great reason to Expect that the Enemy will Commit depradations on them, and that if they are Under the necessity of Guarding the Frontiers, Their farms must lay waste and their familys Exposed to Inevitable want and the Greatest distress.

Your Petitioners therefore most Humbly pray that Your Excellency Will take Speedy and Effectual measures for their Relief by Sending a Body of Troops to Skensborough, Fort George

and Jesups Pattent, the Two former will be able to protect the Western Distrects of Challotte County, and the Eastern & Northern Distrects of the County of Albany Whilst the Latter Will Cover the Western part of Saratoga Distrect Ballstown, and the North Eastern part of Tryon County, Your Pefititioners Humbly apprehend That the propriety of their Request is so Evident that it will Claim Your Excellencys Serious attention and that the Prayer thereof will be Granted and

Your Excellencys Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray:

George Palmer, Job Wright, Dirck Swart, Eben'r Marvin, Haz: Schuyler, Joseph Row, Daniel Parke, Gideon Moor, Peter Van Wort, Elias Bower, Ezra Buell, Isaac Doty, Titus Merema[illegible] Edey Baker, Danl. Dickinson, Charles Moore, Jno. Mohanea[illegible], Samuel Bacon, Alex'r Baldwin, Jabez Morehouse, Holton Dunham, Abner Fuller, John Fish, Gideon Bowdish, Benjamin Fish, Jno. Younglove, Isaiah Younglove, Morgan Powell, William Powell, Benaiah West, James Hagemen, Lawrence Surdam, Robert Cowan, Julius Collins, Edmund Wells, Edmund Wells Jun'r, Walter Rawley, John Pettet, James Cowan, John Morison, John Morison, Jun'r, James Morison, Jur., Samuel Morison, James Cowden, John Clark, James Morison, the third., Thos. Morison, Jur., Abenezer Basey, Abenzer Seley, James Morison Sener, James S. Cowden, Samuel Cowden, John Duncan, Thos. Morison, John Scott, Robt. Gillmore, Wm. Clark, Wm. Clark, Jun., Joseph Wells, Gersham Woodworth, William Woodworth, Saml. Clark, John McClung, Elisha Wadsworth, David Slarra[illegible] Elisha Allen, David Allen, Esek Whipple, Phineas Whiteside[illegible] Jacob Benson, John Benson, Bildad Benson, Joshua Cob[illegible] Ebenezer Patrick, John Thompson, Ebenezer Cobb, Willia[illegible]

Patrick, John Reis, Josiah Benjamin, Samuel Norton, Joal Cook, James Norton, Jno. Boyd, Jur., Simeon Barber, Reuben Wright, John Hunter, Daniel Cambell, Thomas Ballard, Asel Norton, John Neilson, Edward Finel, Solomon Cambell, George Hunter, Elisha Andrus, Thoma Mansfild, Rial Nevland, Jeseph Munger, Ezekiel Sayles, Stephen Sayles, Edward Hysted, Simeon Boler, Gabriel Strang, Amos Woodworth, Timothy Edwards, Peter Clements, James Seely, Ahab Sayles, Jabos Tuttle, Philip Monger, Abner Scidmore, Solomon Scidmore, Increase Child, Joseph Seely, Mordcai Sayles, John Scidmore, John Scidmore, Jur., Zopher Scidmore, Abijah Tuttle, Jonas Titus, Philip Rogers, Jur., Salvenus Dunkan, Philip Ingersol.

Poughkeepsie April 24th 1778.

Sir, I have received the Petition signed by you & others the Inhabitants of Saratoga & Cambridge Districts. You must be sensible that I have no other force under my command but the militia of the state; that to send a Body of Troops to be stationed at the several Places you mention & to give equal Protection to every other Quarter which may be in like manner exposed to the incursions of the Enemy, would be altogether out of my Power, unless I was to call the greater part of the militia into the field. The Legislature passed a Law for raising 700 men for the Defence of the State, a due proportion of which I have ordered to be raised in Charlotte & Tryon Counties & at Schoharie; the Residue in the Southern Parts of the State where the Inhabitants are much exposed to the incursions of the Enemy from New York & its neighbouring Posts; and I have exempted all those Regim'ts from Drafts to fill up the continental Regiments in order that

they may be the better enabled to defend themselves. I was sensible notwithstanding that the withdrawing all the Troops from the Northern Department would leave the Inhabitants of the Northern & Western Frontiers too much exposed. I therefore wrote to Genl. Washington on the Subject & have prevailed on Genl. McDougall to permit Greighton's, Alden's & Warner's Regts. to remain for the present where they are, and I trust, this force with the Spirited exertions of the militia will give you security against the small force that the Enemy can send against you. I think it would be inexpedient to keep large bodies of the militia out in the field as this would prevent the cultivation of our Lands & much distress the Inhabitants. The Cont'l Troops & the Companies I have ordered to be raised will be sufficient to guard the Frontiers ag't small Parties or oppose any sudden Incursion & if the Enemy should come with greater force they must of course move slow, and afford Time for the militia to be collected, which the command'g Officer on such occasions is empowered to do without wait'g for further orders.

You may rest assured that every Succour & Protection which I can give you will at all times be afforded & that I will be attentive to your Safety. I am &c.

[G. C.]

Dirck Swart Esqr. & others Inhabit's of Saratoga & Cambridge Districts.

[No. 1312.]

A Bartering Transaction Involving Flour and Salt and What Followed.

Sir, The Committee of this District sometime last winter purchased a Quantity of wheat which was manufactured into Flower, and Bartered for Salt, for the Inhabitants of part of the District

and are now under the necessity of troubleing your Excellency for a permit. The Salt is laying beyond the State Line, and the Person who made the Contract will not suffer it to be removd, untill a permit is obtained for the Flower. Our Inhabitants are greatly distressed for the want of that necessary article having put their whole dependance on the above mentioned Salt. The Quantity of Flower is 400 Barrels. Your Excellencies complyance with their request will much oblidge your friend and humb'e Serv't

Robt. V'n Rensselaer.

Claverack April 24th 1778.

To his Excellency George Clinton.

[No. 1313.]

COLONEL JOHN WILLIAMS CHANGES HIS TONE.

No Cause for his Alarming Letter of April 22nd—Danger to the Frontiers—A Disappearing Militia—His Appeal to Governor Clinton.

White Creek, April 25th 1778.

Hon'd Sir, Yesterday I return'd with my Regiment from near Skeensbrough. The reason of my March I mentioned to you in my last. It appears the alarm arose from Major Allen's Party Cleaning out their Arms after being out in the wet, a Gentleman hapen'd at the time to be in the rear & hering the Fireing, took it to be an Engagement with the Enemy, and alarm'd the People in the Frontiers, and it gives me Pleasure to Inform you that the people never so Universally Turn'd out so well before.

By the best Information There is Two of the Enemies Ships at Ticonderoga, but no Troops have as yet Landed. However by Certain Entiligence which I have Procured from the Commissioners to Detect Conspiracies, and some of the Disaffected, we

may expect The Following Plan is the Enemies Design. The Enemy are to present themselves in the Frontiers in order to Receive the Disaffected that will Joyn them and then return to St. John's and as Soon as the militia are returned home, they are then to Return and Penetrate into the Country by Parties in order to Detect as many as they Can, and return, Then to remain Quiet, till the Shiping comes up the North River at which time the Indians are to be let loose upon Our Families, and to Burn and Destroy all they can. In the first Instant it seems to be their Design, for as Soon as the Ships appear'd Some of the Disaffected went of to them.

I am sorry to Inform you that Capt. Barn's Company goes on but Slowly. The Act I was Refer'd to in your Letter Respected the Raising the men I have not been furnished with. The Two Lieutenants are appointed and about eighteen Enlisted. But there's nothing mentioned about amunition or Provision. I sent to Albany and Procured One Hundred weight of Power & Two of Lead, and Two Barrells of Beef and Two of Flour. I should be glad to be Inform'd how they are to be Supplied—and also be furnished with the act respected the raising of the men.

As we Stood in need of a Guard and Scouting Parties before this Company could be raised, I tho't it prudent Together with the Opinion of my other Officers, to Class Militia in Six different Classes & to Serve week about. This seems to take with the Inhabitants, but before it could be done the alarm was given & Three Companies are allmost mov'd off. Nor do I imagine they will return notwithstanding all the arguments Us'd which I am master of. This being the Case I have not at present, Twice Seventy men, therefore, it will be Impossible to Fill the Company, as the District of Cambridge is Contigious to us and our Removial from

our Farms (which will be the case unless timly Assisted) will leave it a Frontier. I would Sugest whether it would not be good Policy for them to Assist in filling up the Company. I have mentioned this to them which they would Concur in, was it not for their raising men to Join the Continental Troops. For my own part, I am Ignorant of the Forces we may expect to guard the Frontiers; but this I am well assured that if some Succour is not sent us Soon, the People will undoubtedly leave this County, as they Cannot Subsist having lost allmost their all, unless they can raise a Crop this Season.

The Enemy can land at Sckeensbrough & be to the Southermost part of the County in one day, and excepting the men under Capt. Barns and my Small number of Militia theire is none to Interupt them; this being the Case the people are at a lost whether to put in their Crop or not.

A few days Since, the Civil Majestrates appointed for the County mett and by Reason of my Refusing the Commision being Superceded, they all objected; when this Dificulaty first began I know not. If my Constituents would be Satisfied and my name obliterated from the List I should be Contented, but to be Superseeded, without any reason given, and the only person Struct at in the County, I must confess, I feel my self Injured, and untill the matter is clear'd up, I must Resign from taking any Commision either Civil or Military. For my own Part I never Solicited any Commision, and would as soon go out to defend my Injured Country in a private Station, as a Commander-in-Chief.

I am Informed by the Committee of Kingsbury That one Mr. Dotey who hath been an officer, and lives Contigious to that District, but is in Albany County hath offered to raise 20 or 22 Good men, greatest part of which he can Engage in Two days, in order

to defend their Property it being in the Frontiers provided he can get a lieut. Commision. I Inform'd them, that I would acquaint you of it. Could this be done it would necesarily draw more force to the Frontiers and as Mr. Dotey is a man well acquainted with the woods round lake George, and a good Soldier it may be of great service to the County.

In my letter to you the 21st Inst., I mentioned of requesting the Commanding Officer at Albany to Supply me with Amunition which was Granted. I should be glad to know how I am to replace it; & also we are in great want of Flints. I should be glad to be Informed by the first Opertunity, and also to be furnished with the Militia Law. I am with Sentiments of Esteem Your most Obed't & Most Humble Serv't

Jno. Williams.

P. S. Should be glad to know how I must Conduct with the militia or whither I can be Justified in Sending out the militia in Clases if wanted.

Governor Clinton.

[No. 1314.]

Ebenezer Clark's Epistle to the Governor Relative to Tories.

New Perth April 25, 1778.

D'r Sir, We have form'd a Board of Commissioners here & are Employed in Searching into the Conduct of Such as have been with the Enemy—our Greatest dificulty is in Convincing many who Term themselves Zelous Whigs of the Justice & Propriety of our Proceedings, & as no Court or Majistrasy Exists to Supress & keep in order the Whigs, as well as the Tories, who are as Ungoverunable, we find it attended with many Dificulties. Mr. Webster Designs Writeing you Shortly. Hopeing You'l Excuse Incorect-

ness in this & the Inclosed I am with Great Esteem Your Obedent & very Hmb. Serv't

Eben'r Clark.

We ware lately alarm'd with account of the Enemys apparance at Tyconderoga; the militia marched out near Skeansborough & finde their visits on the Lake but that they have made no Incursion by Land as yet, tho dayly under aprehensions of them.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1315.]

PATRONAGE COMPLICATIONS IN CHARLOTTE COUNTY.

Colonel Williams Obstreperous—His Grievances—Trials of the First Governor of the State.

New Perth, Charlotte County April 25th 1778.

Sir, I acquainted Col. John Williams & Mr. Webster of their appointments to the office of Judges for this County. Col. Williams refused to accept, because of the Injustice he thinks done him by his appointment to the office of Third Judge instead of Second, as in the ordinance—he Says he knows of no Complaint being entered to the Council ag't him, why he Should be Superseded by a Person who was not in the former appointments & further Signified his Intention of not accepting of his Colonel's Commission untill his griefence is redressed in the above appointment. He also desired me to accquaint you of the above Reasons for his declineing & that he will rite You largely on the Subject.

Mr. Webster declines also Upon the Principle of not being even Passively the means of any Confusion as Col. Williams makes So great objections of his appointment before him and is willing to accept (if agreeable to the Council) of the Station of Third Judge.

I also accquainted the Sherref, & the following Justices of their

appointments viz: Mr. Rustle, Mr. Masters, Mr. M'Collister, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Moss, Mr. Baker, & Mr. Fuller, who are all willing to accept, but not untill the Judges be Qualified thinking it necessary that all the wheels of Government will be more than Sufficient to Command that obedience necessary among a People who have So long Enjoyed the liberty of a Loose Reign without Controul.

I am paind at the Thought of opening our Courts being so long delayed, no man's Property is Secure, the Committes are disolved, the Power of the Commissioners is weak, for, unless the determinations of the Commissioners run in the Same Channel with the Judgment of some persons who Esteem themselves zelous freinds to the Common Good, the Commissioners are Reflected on & the Persons dealt with are lyable to be Be Judged & Punished & none to Control them.

I beg Your Excellency for Instructions if any alteration should be made. I Cant omit Suggesting that Mr. Webster's appointment seems agreeable to the People in General, that I have had opertunity of Converseing with. Wishing You all Posable felicity I am Your Excellencys most obt. & very humb. Serv't

Ebenezer Clark.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1316.]

President Laurens Forwards Copies of Acts of Congress to Governor Clinton.

York Town 26 April 1778.

Sir, When I did myself the honour of writing to Your Excellency the 20th Inst. by Messenger Browne, I had taken some pains to procure the Copy of "Draught of Bills" &c. which accom-

panied my Letter, supposing I was then transmitting a thing which would be new at Poughkeepsie, but from the measures which, I now know have been pursued by the late Governor of New York, it is highly probable he had before that date attempted to Insult Your Excellency with a packet of printed Copies of that paper Certified by himself & ushered by a modest Injunction upon Your Excellency to dispose them—such has been Mr. Tryon's conduct towards Governor Livingston, Gen. Washington, &c. &c.—an expence & trouble which might have been spared, since Congress from the first appearance of the Stratagem had determined to expose it in the most effectual manner to public view—in pursuance of such Resolution I have now the honour of transmitting within the present Inclosure twelve Copies of an Act of Congress of the 22d Inst. confirming the Report of a Committee on Gen. Washington's Letter of the 18th containing the said Draughts, to which is prefixed Lord North's Speech at the introduction of the Bills into Parliament.

Your Excellency will also find inclosed an Act of Congress of the 23d* for granting pardons to certain characters therein described & Recommending to the several States to enact Laws or issue Proclamations for that purpose—in a seperate packet are 50 Copies of this last mentioned Act which Your Excellency may judge necessary to disperse immediately. Congress were induced to this measure from well founded suggestions that great advantages would follow. I have the honour to be With the highest Esteem & Regard Sir Your Excellency's Obedient & most humble Servant

Henry Laurens, President of Congress.

His Excellency Governor Clinton, New York.

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*See page 209.

[No. 1317.]

DETERIORATION OF THE CONTINENTAL CURRENCY.

Massachusetts Reluctant to Pass a Regulating Act Fearful of Its Effect on the General Cause.

State of Massachusetts Bay, Roxbury April 27th 1778.

Sir, The General Assembly of this State in pursuance of a Resolution of Congress of the 22nd of November last appointed Commissioners to meet those which might be appointed by the States of New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware at New Haven on the 15th of January last for the purpose of devising the most prudent and effectual measures for promoting those valuable purposes mentioned in said Resolve of Congress. The Commissioners met accordingly and reported that it was Expedient that Laws should be made Regulating the prices of Labor, produce &c., and their proceedings have been laid before this Assembly, who were much divided in their Sentiments with respect to the measures, many apprehending (from a Recent and unhappy experiment of a Regulating Act) that the Carrying such an Act into execution was impracticable. However upon mature Deliberation (as it was Recommended by Congress) a Vote was obtained, appointing a Committee to prepare a Bill for that purpose, but before the Com'ttee could prepare and report it, the small Pox broke out in Boston and this Court oblig'd Suddenly to rise. The Consideration of this matter has been reassumed the present Session and a Bill reported, tho' the Assembly were not less divided than before; it is still urged, that if a regulating Act should be attempted, that the effect would be so far from aiding the other measures proposed by Congress for giving Stability and Value to the Continental Bills that it would render

those measures fruitless, for the possessors of Goods would thereby be induced to part with them on no terms but those of Barter and thereby the Circulation of the Bills being obstructed they would become (in a great measure) useless in the Hands of the needy Possessor, who having nothing else wherewith to purchase the necessaries of Life, would at least in a private manner offer any Sum which he might Suppose would tempt the possessor to part with his corn &c. which the buyer needs, and further that these objections are not built on mere Speculation but upon unfortunate experiment. Should the mode pointed out by Congress for reducing the Quantity of circulating money be punctually complied with in the Several States (which we presume it Will) it is conceived it will have a happy tendency to give Stability to the Currency and to Reduce the prices of Articles both of Produce and merchandize; this Government has (agreeable to the Spirit of the Resolves of Congress) put a final Stop to the Currency of all the Bills emitted by this State, Small change under a Dollar only excepted, and being fully appraised of the bad consequences which would accrue by any further emissions of money, have levied a Tax of three hundred thousand pounds LM'y upon the people, to be paid into the Treasury by the first day of Jan'y 1778, and have Since levied another tax of about Two hundred and fifty thousand pounds LM'y to be paid in by the first of June next and are determined to Support the War by Taxation as far as the Abilities of the People will admit. These measures have already had some happy affect by lowering the price of Imports, and had not the Troops of the Convention been Quartered in this State it is presumed the price of our produce would have been reduced proportionably. Upon the whole this Assembly and

the people at large were so much divided on this Question—the fixing the Price of produce Labour &c. so as to give Satisfaction to the Various parts of this State was so very difficult—but above all, the danger of obstructing the Circulation of the money, and thereby reducing its Value to such a Degree as greatly to affect the Common Cause, was so exceeding great—and fearing least the evils Which We feel should be increased instead of being removed by the measure, We have upon a full discussion and Consideration of the Subject thought proper to Suspend passing such an Act for the present and inform Congress of the motives which influenced us so to do. Accordingly We have candidly and Justly Related in few Words the mode of our Proceedings and the Principal motives which have influenced us to Suspend passing the Bill, which We Submit to the Consideration of Congress, and hope that if it should be their Opinion that our Objections are not Sufficient to Suspend passing such an Act that they will take the earliest Opportunity to give us the information which will be immediately attended to by the General Assembly.

In the name & behalf of the General Assembly.

Jeremiah Powell Presid't.

True Copy

Attest, John Avery D'y Secy.

Hon'e Henry Laurens Esqr.

[No. 1318.]

EW YORK PRISONERS CONFINED IN CONNECTICUT.

zra Williams, Deputy Commissary of Prisoners, Sends Governor Clinton a List with a Statement Concerning One Peleg Smith.

Wethersfield, 27th April 1778.

Hon'd Sir, In Consequence of a Letter lately Rec'd from Genl. Huntington, Enclosing a memorandum from your Excellency, deiring one Peleg Smith a Prisoner &c. might be released from his Confinement, with Liberty on Parole & pass on to your Excellency t Poughkeepsie, I have now taken his Parole & given him a pass Accordingly, Altho' I Confess I am somewhat doubtful of his Sincerity, when he so faintly says, he does not care whether he e Exchanged or not, Suspect he is yet in doubt which side is ike to be the strongest, tho' perhaps the great & important News now Arrived from England & France (on which I most heartily Congratulate your Excellency) may Induce him to Speak out with a little more boldness, however I believe he will not break his Parole.

Have also Enclosed a Return of the Other Prisoners belonging to your State now in part Confined in Goal & part out at Labour &c. and beg your directions Concerning them.

Your Exalted Station in Life but more Especially your Amiable and Excellent Character (tho' personally Unknown) Oblige me to Subscribe myself with great defference & Esteem, your most Obed'nt & very Humb'e Serv't

Ez. Williams D: Commiss'y Prisoners.

His Excellency Geo: Clinton Esqr.

A Return of Prisoners &c, Belonging to the State of New York, April 27th 1778.

NAMES	Towns to which they belonged.	Regt. & in which Inlisted.	Time when Taken.
Samuel Simmond	Westchester County	Col'n Delancy Lt. Horse	Octo. 30th 1777.
Joshua Ferris	do	do	do
Abraham Hammond	do	do	do
Jacob Smith	Rhyneback	Col'n Robinson Regt.	do
John Clark	Dutchess County	do	—
Nathan Burch	Albany County	do	—
Gabriel Doxey	Long Island	York Volunteer	—
Nath'l Russel	Huntington on do	Genl. Delancy's Brigade	Nov r 26th 1777
Jonas Higby	do	do	—
Nathan Smith	do	do	—
John Crookstone	East Chester	do	Nov'r 15th
John Willard Arms	Brattleborough	Col'n Turnbull's Regt.	—
Henry Abrahams	Huntington Long Isl'd	do	—
John Guion	East Chester	Emerick's Chasseurs	8d Jan'y 1778
Jon'a Ogden	Peekskill	do	do
John Hogaboone	Dutchess County	do	do
Isaac Conklin	Huntington Long Ild.	do	do
Joshua Chambers	Dover Dutchess County	do	do
Samuel Griswold	Great Nine Partnerns	do	do
Jack Negro	West Chester	Waiter on Levt Hunt	—
Henry Harris	Statten Island	Col'n Lawrence Regt.	August 1777.
Philip Merchant	New York	2d Batt'n Col'n Delancy	3d Jan'y 1778.
Christopher Gow	Fish Kill precinct		17th Octo. 1777.
James Johnson	between F't Edw'd & Albany	Sir James Johnson	
Wm. Southerland	near Lake Champlain		Nov'r 1777.
Alexander Watson	do		do
		How disposed of	
Charles Near	Ransalear Patent	as Honest man permitted to return home for 1 month	do
John Myer	do	do	do
Wm. Patterson	Unknown		
Charles Johnson	do		
John Lewis	do		
Wm Merrison	do	out at Labour	
John McCrow	do		
Peter Hains	do		
Hugh Fraiser	do		
Frederick Price	do		

Isaac Gidney		Do Col'n Delancy's Lt. Horse	30th Octo. 1777.
Wm. Nesbitt		Do do	
Abraham Mabe		gone home on Parole	
William Bens	How disposed of—out at Labour	Unknown	
Bartholemew Haines	with Mr. Jo Bull on Parole		
Peter Ganter	out at Labour		
John McFarlin	Do		
Gilbert Adams	of Maroneck out at Labour		
Maj'r Parker Wickham	Long Island	out of Military Commis'n acting as Justice of the Peace	Dec'r 1777.
Maj'r Fred'k Hudson	do	of Militia	do
Capt. John Barns		Emerick's Chasseurs	10th Jan'y 1778.
Leivt. Benj'm Hunt		do	do

The Above mentioned officers out on Parole.

Some few other privates &c. out at Labour, I suppose are Omitted in this Return as I have not the Exact List before me.

Ez. Williams, D. Comss'y, Prisoners.

[No. 1319.]

General Conway Proceeds to Half Moon and Finds Everything Quiet in the North.

Half Moon the 27th April 1778.

Sir, I arriv'd here this Day with Coll. Graton's and Alden's Regiments and had sent orders to Warner's Regiment to join me to morrow at Saratoga. I Just now receiv'd the inclos'd Letter from General Schuyler with the account given by Coll. Williams. I fear the News which came by the Channell of Capt. Allen stationn'd at White creek cannot be much Credited.

I will send Back to morrow Graton's Regiment to Albany. Will Keep here Alden's Regiment, untill I return from Saratoga where I will proceed to morrow in order to Connect with General Schuyler, and to be able to give you and General McDoughall some more positive account. I pray you will be so kind as to send me the Letters of General Schuyler as I had not time to take copies thereof. The fear of Detaining the express Causes me to write but one Letter, which I pray your excellency will transmitt to General MacDoughall. I hope General MacDoughall will not find fault with it, as you Both must be acquainted with what passes here and as you are on the way this Letter can speedily be conveyed to him.

I will write to you and to him as soon as I return from Saratoga and Let him Know what measures I have taken what intelligence I have obtain'd, and ask his orders for my future conduct.

On my return to Albany I intend to visit the Mohawk river and give you Both an account of the situation and Dispositions of the settlements in that quarter. I am with much Esteem and Respect Sir Your Excellency's Most obed't Servant

Th's Conway.

Governor Clinton, Poughkeepsie.

[No. 1320.]

ral McDougall Believes Mr. St. John Should Proceed to New York on His Way to Europe Under Certain Safeguards.

Fish Kill 28th April 1778.

ly dear Sir, Your favor of the 13th instant on the Subject leave to Mr. St. John's goeing to France via of New York, s this day handed to me by Him. As he is a Citizen and you ter acquainted with his Political Character than I am, the quest he makes must be Submited to you. If you permit him go; I wish he may go by Land; and on the west Side, and der Such guards as your own prudence shall suggest. I think s honor should be engaged not to give any Public intelligence o the Enemy; nor to carry any Letters; but shall be first Exhibted to you, or any papers relative to the Public state or Temper of the Country. I am Dear Sir, Your Humble Serv't

Alex'r McDougall.

He ought not to be allowed to return during the Contest by New York, or any Post in the Hands of the Enemy, nor immediately from New York.

[To Gov. George Clinton.]

[No. 1321.]

George Clinton Orders General Ten Broeck to Hold All the Militia Under His Command in Readiness to Obey General Conway's Orders.

Poukeepsie April 28th 1778.

Sir, I have this moment received a Letter from Major Genl. Conway enclosing Genl. Schuyler's Letter to you, the Contents of which shall without Delay be communicated to Genl. McDougall. You are immediately to cause the militia under your com-

mand to hold themselves in readiness and to order so many of them as General Conway may require, to march to such Place or Places as he shall direct for oppos'g the Enemy & prevent'g their making any further incursions into the Country. I am &c.

[G. C.]

Brig'r Genl. Ten Broeck.

[No. 1322.]

Dirck Ten Broeck Sends a Package of Lottery Tickets to Governor Clinton.

Albany 28th April 1778.

Sir, In Consequence of Directions Received from the Managers of the United States Lottery I transmit your Excellency, Two Thousand three hundred and thirty five Tickets as Pr Acc't Inclosed. Maj'r Lush informs me that your Excellency (he beleived) had disposed of the nine Hundred Tickets & also that my Agents at Poughkeepsie had disposed of their Tickets, but I have no Account from all of them. I Trust the Tickets are sold. I remain with great Esteem Your Excellency's Humble Ser't

Dirck Ten Broeck.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1323.]

George Clinton Notifies General Conway that He Has Sent Orders to General Ten Broeck to Hold His Brigade of Militia Ready to Obey Conway's Orders.

Poukeepsie April 28th 1778.

Sir, I was absent when your favor of the 26th Inst. was lef at my House & did not receive it until this Evening on my Return home. I shall immediately communicate the Contents to Genera

McDougall. In the mean time I have ordered General Ten Broeck* to turn out such Part of the militia under his command as you may deem immediately necessary for effectually opposing the Enemy & prevent'g them from penetrating any further into the Country. I am with great Respect Sir Your Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Major Genl. Conway.

[No. 1324.]

Governor Clinton Acknowledges the Receipt of the Lottery Tickets.

Poughkeepsie 29th Apl. 1778.

Sir, I have received your Letter of yesterday by Messenger Fowler with two Bundles said to contain two thousand three hundred & thirty five Ticketts for which I have given my Receipt. The Nine hundred Ticketts you formerly sent me I delivered out in small Parcels to sundry Persons as the most likely Means for disposing of them and I am informed they are all sold but regular Returns with the Cash are not yet made to me.

I wish to have the last Acts of Congress respecting the States Lottery that I may learn what I am to do with the Ticketts you

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*From Poughkeepsie, April 28, 1778, 10 o'clock P. M., Robert Benson wrote to John Barclay, Albany, N. Y.:

His Excellency, the Governor, having been absent since Saturday, returned home this evening, when your letter together with that of Mr. Yates, was delivered to him. He has ordered Genl. Ten Broeck to march as many of the militia as Genl. Conway may deem necessary, to oppose the enemy, and prevent their penetrating into the country. 'Tis a strange thing that your northern gentry can't let us enjoy all the good reports we receive daily in this quarter, without being disturbed by the disagreeable sound of the enemy's appearing on the northern frontiers.

Capt. Deane (brother to our Ambassador at the Court of France,) passed through Fishkill yesterday, (under an escort of light horse,) with despatches from France to Congress. We remain ignorant of their contents; but from report, we apprehend some very interesting treaty to have taken place between that Court and the United States. What think you of the lowered tone of Lord North's speech, and the present temper of administration? Does it not savour strongly of their jealousies of an alliance prejudicial to their measures? The politicians here, have no doubts on the subject. I send by this express a parcel of the militia laws, to be disposed of as you may judge proper. Mrs. Clinton is much indisposed; all other friends, are well.

P. S. If any thing that may be depended on relative to this news, should transpire, I'll send it you.

have now sent me. You'l be kind enough to forward them to me by first Opportunity. I am Sir Your most Obed't Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

To Dirck Ten Broeck Esqr.

The Receipt alluded to in the above Letter is as follows:

Rec'd of Wm. Fowler a Letter from Dirck TenBroeck Esq. Dated 28th Apl. Instant & two Bundles said to Contain two thousand three hundred & thirty five Ticketts. Dated at Poughkeepsie this 29th Apl. 1778.

[No. 1325.]

THE ALLIANCE WITH FRANCE.

Governor Clinton Imparts the Intelligence to General Conway—Lord North's Speech.

Poughkeepsie 29th April 1778.

Dear Sir, I wrote you last night since which I am favoured with yours of the 27th Instant. I am happy to learn that the Accounts from the Northward are not so alarming as they were at first represented. I will forward Copies of your Letter with its inclosures to Genl. McDougal Tomorrow Morning; Genl. Schuyler's Letter I return inclosed.

Lord North's speech* I sent some Days since to Mr. McKesson

*The speech alluded to, was delivered by Lord North in Parliament, February 17, 1778. He declared that from the beginning he had been uniformly disposed to peace; that the coercive acts which he had made were such as appeared to be necessary at the time, though in the event they had produced effects which he had never intended. That since he found they had not the effect which he intended he proposed a conciliatory proposition before the sword was drawn. He thought then and he thought still that the terms of that proposition "would form the happiest, most equitable, and most lasting bond of union between Great Britain and her colonies. That by a variety of discussions, a propositon that was originally clear and simple in itself, was made to appear so obscure, as to go damned to America; so that the Congress conceived, or took occasion to represent it as a scheme for sowing divisions, and introducing taxation among them in a worse mode than the former, and accordingly rejected it.

"His idea never had been to draw any considerable revenue either in that way or any other from America; that his idea was they should contribute in a very low proportion to the expences of England. He had always found that American taxation could never produce a beneficial revenue; that there were many sorts of taxes that could not at all be laid on that country and that few of them would prove worth the charge of collection; that the Stamp Act was the most judicious that could be chosen for that purpose, as it interested every man who had any dealing or any property to

Clerk of the Sup'r Court at Albany to be communicated to you. The two Drafts of Bills aluded to in the Speech I send by this Conveyance to Chief Justice Jay.

Capt. Deane, Brother to Mr. Silas Deane, one of our Embassadors at the Court of France arrived from thence at Fishkill on his Way to Congress in forty Days. He came in a French Man of War & has brought very Important Intelligence, the particulars whereof are not transpired. This much I have heard & may venture to tell as a Truth, that an Aliance between that Court & these States has taken Place as favourable & generous as coud be expected to the Latter. A Knowledge of this has undoubtedly occassioned the late Measures in the English House of Commons. I am with much Esteem Your Most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

The Hon'ble Maj'r Genl. Conway.

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defend or recover, in the collection of the tax and the execution of the law; but notwithstanding the high rate at which that duty had been formerly estimated, he did not believe its produce would have a very considerable object; and if the people had confederated as they seemed in general disposed to do, and in some places had actually done, to go on without stamps, it would produce nothing at all but would increase the confusion of the country if any attempts were made to disturb the transactions which were carried on without stamps. That accordingly he never had proposed any tax on America; he found them already taxed when he unfortunately (as he still must say, whatever use has been, or might be made of the word) came into administration. His principle of policy was to have had as little discussion on this subject as possible, but to keep the affairs of America out of Parliament; that accordingly as he had not said, so did he not think it advisable for him to repeal the tea tax, nor did he ever think of any particular means for enforcing it. * * * One of the bills he proposed to move was, to quiet America upon the subject of taxation and to remove all fears real or pretended of Parliament's ever attempting to tax them again and to take away all exercise of the right itself in future so far as regarded revenue."

It was impossible to repeal all the acts in dispute since 1763, for some which had passed in 1769 were beneficial to the colonies. As to the late acts, such as the Massachusetts charter, the fishery and the prohibitory bills, "as they were the effect of the quarrel" he promised them to cease, and that "as to complaints of matters of a various nature, authority should be given to settle them to the satisfaction of America." He stated, that "all these matters consisting of a great variety would be better left to the discussion of commissioners than to be established by act of Parliament."

He believed that, "the commissioners should be instructed to negotiate for some reasonable and moderate contribution toward the common defence of the empire, when reunited, but to take away all pretence for not terminating this unhappy difference, the contribution was not to be insisted on as a sine qua non of the treaty."

As these terms were the same which he was disposed to offer when he believed the British arms in America were invincible and before he knew of Burgoyne's misfortune, he now repeated them "to prevent the protracting of the war, the effusion of blood and the immoderate expence."

In conclusion, he said, "on the whole his concessions were from reason and propriety, not from necessity; that we were in condition to carry on the war much longer."—STATE HISTORIAN.

[No. 1326.]

Gates and the Northern Department—McDougall and Governor Clinton's Correspondence.

Fish Kill 26th April 1778.

Dear Sir, Yesterday I received a Letter from General Gates of the 21st, covering Sundry resolutions of Congress, by which He is to take the Command here, and in the Northern department. General Starks to command at Albany; and its vicinity. At the desire of the Former, I give you this information. Its unnecessary for me to make any observations on this arangement, as they will occur to you on the bare recital of it. General Gates may be expected here early in the next week, and perhaps To morrow. I am Dear Sir, Your affectionate Hbe. Servant

Alex'r McDougall.

Governor Clinton.

Poughkeepsie 29th April 1778.

Dear Sir, I now send you inclosed a Copy of a Letter fron Genl. Conway with a Copy of one it inclosed from Genl. Schuyle to Genl. Tenbroeck. Genl. Conway's Letter was left at my Hous the 27th Instant but being from Home I did not receive it o yours of the 26th Instant before my Return last Night.

If it was possible to ruin us by unwise & injudicious Measure it must have er'e now been effected. I trust therefore it is no & that that good Providence which has hitherto provisioned wi continue so to do in Spite of all our Folly. On this believe m I build my Greatest hopes.

I return you the Copy of the Permission granted by Gen Robertson to Capt. Carson which was handed me by Major Fel with my Sentiments at the Foot of it. If you can Effect an Ex

ench for the one ment'd in the Permission i

nt it woud be wrong to permit th

Women mentioned in it & who live in the Neighbourhood of our Forts to go into N. York at present. I am &c.

[G. C.]

Mrs. Ludlow whom I mentioned to you will wait upon you on her Way down to N. York to-morrow & take your Orders.

[To Gen. McDougall.]

[No. 1327.]

General McDougall Notifies Governor Clinton of His Transfer to Washington's Army.

Fish Kill 29th April 1778.

Dear Sir, I received your favor of this date, and one from General Conway some days ago, of the Same import with that addressed to you. It is fortunate those regiments were not ordered down from above; but it is very Lamentable those corps are so weak; which must be occationed by undue Furloughs. But the orders Transmited to me, respecting the Disposition of the Troops will not warrant me to Spare any more for the Service above. I approve of your denial to the Flag, and shall not open a negotiation for my wench If I never see her. Mr. Silas Dean's brother from France in a French man of warr, passed thro' here two days ago with the Counter part of a Treaty with that Crown, very favourable to America. It is far exceeding my most Sanguine expectation. Time will not permit me to mention the particulars. It must be a knowledge of this Alliance that gave Birth to the two draughts of Bills Sent out from New York. As I am directed by the commander in chief to join the Grand Army, when General Gates arrives; I wish to communicate to you in Conversation, what I received in Confidence from Mr. Dean. I am Dear Sir, Your affectionate Humble

Alex'r McDougall.

[Governor George Clinton.]

[No. 1328.]

Colonel Morgan Lewis Appointed Deputy Quartermaster General of the Northern Department.

Albany 28th April 1778.

I should be much Obliged to your Excellency to send me by Return of this Express the Necessary Certificates of my being employ'd in the Quarter Master General's Department, as required by the Regulating Bill passed the third Instant. I am with due Respect Your Excellency's Most Obedient

M. Lewis.

His Excellency Geo. Clinton Esqr.

Poukeepsie April 30th 1778.

Sir, I am commanded by his Excellency the Governor to send you the enclosed Certificate of his approval of your appointm't to the Office of Dep. Q'r M'r Genl. in the Northern Departm't.

His Excellency observes that you make use of very good Letter Paper, an Article exceedingly scarce in this quarter. Perhaps the Q'r M'rs Office in the Northern Department may have some to spare; if that should be the Case, his Excellency will esteem it a kindness in Colo. Lewis to send him a small quantity of that necessary article. I am with respect S'r Your most Obt. Serv't

Robt. Benson P. Secry.

Colo. Morgan Lewis.

Morgan Lewis Esqr. being regularly appointed to the Office of Dep. Q'r M'r Genl. in the Northern Departm't I do hereby signify my approval thereof. Given under my hand at Poukeepsie this 30th Day of April 1778.

Morgan Lewis.

A Number of Officers Dropped Under the New Organization of the Army.

Poughkeepsie 30th April 1778.

Sir,—I am requested by the Committee of Congress for making a new Arrangement of the Army to form the several Regiments raised in this State (excepting such of them as are with the Grand Army) upon the New Plan agreed to by that Committee, a Modell of which for a Battalion you have inclosed. You are, therefore, desired with the advice of your Field Officers to return to me without Delay the Names of the Gentlemen of your Regiment who are best quallified to serve the public, agreable to the present Establishment, and as this Plan is calculated to diminish the Number of Officers in the Army several must of Course be left out many of whom may have Merrit. It is the Desire of the Committee, therefore, that the Names of such be transmitted to them & for this Purpose you will please to furnish me with a list of such deserving Officers as by this new arangement may be left out and it will not be amiss to note in what new Employment you conceive they are best quallified to serve their Country. Your Most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Colo. Gaansevoort.

[No. 1330.]

Governor Clinton Promises to Visit General McDougall.

Poughkeepsie 30th Apl. 1778.

Dear Sir, I have received yours of yesterday. If I can spare Time to wait upon you at Fishkill before you leave it, I will, not only to hear the Good Tidings, more particularly than you was able to write me but to have an Hour's Conversation with you on

Matters. I inclose you a Copy of a Letter I received last from Genl. Conway & of other Papers which were inclosed I cant see that the Exchange of your Wench coud be at-ed with any bad Consequence. I am Your Most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Genl. McDougal.

[No. 1331.]

George Clinton Directs Colonel Graham to Pass Mrs. Thomas Ludlow and Her Children to New York City.

Poughkeepsie 30th April 1778.

Dear Sir, This will be delivered to you by Mrs. Thomas Ludlow who has my Permission to go to New York with her Children & Effects in two Waggons. You will, therefore, please to let her Pass, and if you conceive it necessary send a careful Officer with her to the Enemies Lines who will wait the Return of the Waggons. She proposes to send out some few Articles for her Sister to which I have no Objection. I am Sir Your Most Obed't Serv't

G. C.

Colo. Morris Graham.

[No. 1332.]

Draft pass for Mrs. Ludlow to go to New York City. Mrs. Mary Ludlow Wife of Thomas Ludlow Esqr. her two Children and Nurse, May Thompson, with their Effects in two Waggons to be driven by James Teller & Mr. William Ludlow's Servant Man, John, have permission to pass to New York unmollested. The [illegible] Drivers to return with all Convenient Speed; Mrs [illegible] continue in New York provide

of New York, for the Time being, shall nominate be sent out in Exchange for them, with Effects of equal Value, agreeable to Mrs. Ludlow's Engagement. If not they are to return if not required. Given at Poughkeepsie this 30th Day of April 1778.

Geo. Clinton Gov'r State N. York.

To all Concerned.

[No. 1333.]

Major Lush Supplies Governor Clinton with Treasury Notes and Letter Paper.

Much respected Sir.—I should have complied with your Excellency's Commands on the Return of Capt. North but was prevented by his leaving the City sooner than I expected and his not giving me Notice of the Time.

By Mr. Yates your Excellency will receive Treasury Notes for 3700 Dollars agreable to the Directions. There is also inclosed a Certificate of 200 Doll's ——*mes.

Mr. Yates has also under Care two small Bundles of Letter Paper which as was requested I obtained in your Excellency's Name from Colo. Lewis.

Mr. Cuyler informs me he has sent you a Barrel of Peas by a Capt. Pruyn, I therefore presume that that Part of my Commission which respects the purchasing of Peas is not to be fulfilled.

With my Respects to Mrs. Clinton and best Wishes for the Return or her Health and a Kiss for my Cornelia. I am Sir with the greatest Respect & Esteem Your Excellency's most obed't ser't

Stephen Lush.

Albany April 30th 1778.

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*MSS. torn.

[No. 1334.]

The Clothing Depot Ordered to Shawangunk.

Poukeepsie April 30th 1778.

Sir, I am directed by his Excellency the Governor to acknowl-
ge the Receipt of your Letter relative to the removal of the
cloathing Store to Shawangunck; and to inform you that his Ex-
cellency desires that you remove the cloathing Store to that Place
accordingly. I am Sir Your most Obed't Serv't

Robt. Benson, P. Secry.

Mr. John Henry.

[No. 1335.]

Governor Clinton Gives Commissary Jacob Cuyler Pertinent Instructions as to Permits.

Poughkeepsie 30th Apl. 1778.

Sir, I am favoured with yours of the 13th Instant with th
Pease for which I thank you.

On Receipt of your Former Letter I wrote Genl. Conway m
Sentiments respecting the Removal of your Stores to Places
Safety at a Distance from the River, as I conceived it most prop
that the Commanding Officer shoud take upon himself the Dir
tion of that Business. Such Articles as the Embargo Law
silent about, not being included under General Terms, I concl
safely be exported. As to Permits for the Transportati
General ones can't be granted, the particu
Permit, which will mak
the more

of two Members of the Legislature which renders the Duty still more dificult & Tedious. I am Sir Your Most Obed't Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

Colo. Cuyler.

[No. 1336.]

Colonel Regnier Applies to Governor Clinton for Clothing for His Regiment.

May it please Your Excellency;

Sir; The Extreme Distress under which this Regiment is, for want of Clothing makes me bold to apply to you, in its behalf and your authority in the N. York State, as its Governor, makes me Expect if there is any possibility of giving us Some Relieve, your Disinterested Generosity and Patriotick Zeal, will not be insensible of our situation.

I was informed few days Since, that; Some Shirts, waistcoats, and perhaps, some Coats may be got for the N. York Troops, at the Provincial Store at Knepenock, [Napanock] if it Should be the Case, I Should be much obliged to your Excellency, if you would direct, procure or give an Order, to the Bearer (Lt. Elsworth) to get Some of the above articles, if the whole cannot be got. And even, if Some Cloth could be found, though not already made up, I may have them made in the Regt.

We have received already few Pieces of Cloth, from the Gentelmen Delegued in Congress which they bought at Lancaster, But; we have hardly enough, for half of the Regiment, and the cloth is so bad, that it is worn out, most as soon as made. I am with Respect of Your Excellency the most obt. serv't

P. Regnier, Lieut. Col. 4th N. York Regt.

Camp Valley Forge April 31st 1778.

His Excellency *Governor George* Clinton.

[No. 1337.]

A Formidable Petition for the Pardon of Myndert Harris.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esq.

Governor of the state of New York, General of all the Militia, and Admiral of the Navy of the same.

We the Subscribers, Inhabitants of Dutchess county, Faithfull subjects to the state of New York—and hearty freinds to the Independence of America, Beg leave to recommend Myndert Harris now under sentence of death, as an object of your Excellency's clemency. We hope his future good behaviour will convince the world that his Preservation hath not been in vain.

Henry Livingston Jur., John Frear, Elias Bunschoten, Solomon Freligh, V. D. M., Isaac Rysdike, V. D. M., Jonas Kelsy.

The Humble Petition of the Subscribers most Humbly sheweth,

Whereas, Mindred Harris Son of Joseph Harris being Justly Condemned to Die by the Late Honourable Court held at Poughkeepsie to the most Unspeakable Grief of his Father and Mother, we the Subscribers most Earnestly pray that it may please His Excellency to have Compassion on the most Distressed Father & Mother & Relation of Said Harris, and have Mercy on the Criminal that it may please His Excellency to Grant a Reprieve for the same not Doubting but this will be a sufficient Check for him in his Wickedness and Villany by Granting the above Request will Releive the Distressed Parants from their Grief and Distress, in not Seeing their Child Come to such an Untimely End as he is Justly Sentenced to, and will Greatly Oblige His Excellency's Most Hble. & Obdt. Serv'ts.

Nathaniel Smith, Timethey Ton, Josiah Ingerson, Joseph Reynolds, Edward Tredwell, James McCreedy, Gilbert Totten, Obadiah Cooper, Jacob Brinckerhoff, Richard Vanwyck, Corn's Vanwyck, Jacob Griffin, Abr'm Brinckerhoff, Jasper Fulmore, Dirck Brinckerhoff, Hend'k Wyckoff, Jacobus Swartwout, James Snediker, Thos. Storm, William Humfrey, Hugh Conner, James V D Burrgh, John McBride, William Clark, Peter Noxon, Ebenez'r Cary, Benj'm Birdsall, Maurice Pleas, Gideon Hall, Stephen For-

gason, Hezekiah Collins, Israel Vail, John Smith, William Gifford, Israel Platt.

Dutches County April 19th 1778.

To His Excellency G. Clinton Esqr. Gov'r &c.

To his Excellency the Honourable George Clinton Esqr. Gov'r and Commander in Chief of the State of New York. The Humble Petition of the Subscribers Sheweth That we the Subscribers principal Inhabitants and Good people as also Good Subjects of the state of New York, Do beg leave to recommend Myndert Harris a prisoner now under Condemnation to your Excellency as an Object of Mercy we being Informed that his Conviction consists only of one Crime and that the first, we being further Informed that he hath been in the service of this state and behaved himself well Further beg leave to Inform your Excellency that a pardon in his Case will be more agreeable to the Good Subjects in General than an Execution and we as in duty bound Shall ever pray.

I am willing that Mindert Harris shou'd be Pardon'd.

Grand Jury Wm. Van Wyck
Adrian Brinckerhoff

James Livingston, E. Bunschoten Jr., Capt., Abraham Swartwout, Capt., Felix Lewis, James Brisben, Peleg Seaman, Richard Lewis, Pety Jury James Winans, Do Jacob Low, Do Benjamen Westervelt, Do Myndert Vanderbogart, Christian Dubois, Leut., Cornelius Viltse Com'y Forrage, John Myer, John Elsworth, George Elsworth, Clement Cornell, Abraham Hogland ins., William Haskin Lieut.

To his Excellency the Honourable George Clinton Esqr. Governor and Commander in Chief of the State of New York &c. The Humble petition of the Subscribers Sheweth That we the subscribers principal Inhabitants and Good people as also Good Subjects of the State of New York Do beg leave to recommend Myn-
dert Harris a prisoner now under Condemnation to your Excel-

lency as an Object of mercy, we being Informed that his Conviction Consists only of one Crime and that the first we being further Informed that he hath been in the Service of this State and behaved himself well, Further beg leave to Inform your Excellency that a pardon in his Case, will be more agreeable to the good Subjects in General, than an Execution and we as in duty bound Shall Ever pray.

Sam'l Dodge foreman of G Jury, Jacob Carl, John Carpenter, Isaac Bloom, Isaac Finch, Silas Germond, Joseph Sutherland, John Dodge, Joseph Carpenter, Phinehas Knapp, Samuel Adsit, Silvanus Beckwith, James Thompson, John Smith, Jasper Fulmore, Nathaniel Smith, Elijah Townsend, Nathan Hyatt, David Lyons, Robert Hoffman, Jacobes Frear.

This is to inform your Excellency that we the Subscribers has been to the good people of Dutch's County in Genral and it is the Voice in Genral, that Mindart Harris of said County be Repriev'd if your Excellency would think proper and we as in Duty Bound Shall Ever pray.

Nathaniel Smith Capt., Jasper Fulmore Lt., Daniel Outwater Lt.

April ye 2d 1778.

To his Excellency the Honourable George Clinton Esqr. Governor Commander in Chief of the State of New York &c. The humble Petition of the Subscribers Shewet That we the Subscribers principal Inhabetants and good people as also Good Subjects of the State of New York Do beg Leave to recommend Mindart Harris Prisoner now under Condemnation to your Excellency as an object of mercy we being informed that the Conviction Consists only of one Crime and that the first we been further Informed that he hath been in the Service of this State and behaved him Self well Further beg leave to inform your Excellency that a pardon in his Case will be more agreeable to the Good Subjects in General than an Execution and we as in Duty bound Shall Ever pray.

Reuben Sutherland, Smith Sutherland, Joel Sutherland, Richard Bulock, Israel Lewis, Benjamin Herrick, Stephen Herrick, Rufus Herrick, Lemuel Brush, Judah Burton, Daniel Ward, Zacs Newcomb, Increase Carpenter, David Carpenter, Daniel Wickes, Henry Humfrey, David Sutherland, William T. Southerland, William Sutherland, Hezekiah Mills, Samuel Waters, James Hall, Nehemiah Smith, Andrew Carroll, John Gazly, James Tallmadge, Ephrief Bullock, Isaac Lamb, Stephen Adsit.

END OF MANUSCRIPT VOLUME IV.

MANUSCRIPT VOL. V.

1778.

[No. 1338.]

George Clinton Returns Unsold Tickets to the Managers of the United States Lottery.

Poukeepsie May 1st 1778.

Gentlemen, Agreable to an Act of Congress I have the Honor to inclose you a Qudruplicate Receipt for the United States Lottery Ticketts which remained unsold in this State on the 30th Apl. last and am with due Respect Your Most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

To the Managers of the United States Lottery, York Town.

Poukeepsie May 1st 1778.

Gentlemen, Agreable to the Act of Congress of the 8th of January last I now transmit to your hon'ble Board by the Bearer hereof Mr. David Barclay 3209 United States Lottery Ticketts which remained unsold in this State on the 30th Apl. last inclosed under the privy Seal of this State together with Quadruplicate Receipts for the same. I have the Honor to be Your Most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

The Hon'ble the Board of Treasury of the United States of America, York Town.

to grant Commisions to the above mentioned persons and in So doing you will mutch obige your Real Humble Servant

Henry Ludinton.

Fredricksburgh May 1d 1778.

To his Excelency George Clinton Esqr. Governor.

[No. 1341.]

Congress Bestows Authority upon Governors to Grant Exemptions from Military Service Under Certain Conditions.

In Congress; May 1st 1778.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several States to empower the executive authority of such States, from time to time, to grant exemptions, from duty in the militia, to such persons as may from time to time be employed in manufacturing military stores and other articles for the use of the United States.

Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson secy.

[No. 1342.]

One of the Heroes of Fort Schuyler Asks for More Active Service.

Poukeepsie May 1st 1778.

Dear Sir, I am favored with your Letter of the 8th Ult. Genl. Gates is daily expected here to take the command of this & the Northern Departm't which are united. I am persuaded it is a generous zeal for your Country's Service that induces you to

ot fully executed may be so conducted as At least to serve as . Diversion favourable to Genl. Washington. I expect Genl. Gates to take the Command here in a Day or two when I will take the Liberty of suggesting the matter to his consideration. I am with very great Respect Your Excellency's &c.

[G. C.]

His Excellency Gov'r Trumbull.

[No. 1340.]

Colonel Ludinton Has Raised His Quota and Recommends Officers.

I would inform your Excelency that I have prosceeded to Raise the Companey aloted me to Raise as my Cota and Exspct them to march on Munday next; in Regard of offesering the Companey I have Been obliged to Borow a pint, and thought it my Duty to acquaint his Excelency in that manner; the man apointed as Capt., Did not Belong to the militia—who is Capt. Elijah Tounsand the Barer—But has Been the most of the time in Service Sinc the war Began and has Been Captain with me in the 3 months Servic at the Plains and I Conseive him to Be more Sutable to Command a companey than one of the militia Captains; would there fore take it as a favour if you would give him his Comision; the 1 Lutt. is John Berrey a militia offisar; the 2 Lutt. is Mr. William Mctine a young man who formerly Lived at the White Plains and now has moved among us, has never Born a commision in the militia, But is Lookt upon to Be a proper person for itt, as he is a man well acquented with the art of the Country where he is going and very Capable of pre-

ice. Sir I hope it will Be agreable to his Excelency

[No. 1344.]

Governor Clinton Directs Colonel Cantine to Keep Out Scouting Parties for the Protection of the Ulster Frontier.

Poughkeepsie 1st May 1778.

Sir, From the Accounts contained in the inclosed Depositions transmitted to me by the Committee of Mammacotting & some Intelligence lately communicated by a Person from Passaking to the Bearer, Mr. Andries Bevier, the Frontier Inhabitants of your County are very apprehensive of Danger from the Torries & Indians which they are made to believe are collecting at Aquago, Shohawken & Koohtje. The different Accounts when compared together do not appear to me sufficient to evince the Truth of any formidable Design of the Indians against us. Small Parties of them however influenced by Deserters & the disafected Inhabitants, for the Sake of Plunder may be tempted to commit Depredations on the Inhabitants. To prevent which and to collect the earliest Intelligence of any Movement among them, It is my Desire that you keep out Scouting Parties from your Regiment on the Western Frontiers and the whole of your Regiment in Constant Readiness to march on a Moment's Warning. Tho the Parties in my Oppinion need not be large they shoud be under the Direction of a prudent Officer. The Numbers they ought to consist of & the Places they ought to occupy, I leave to be determined [by] yourself & your Field Officers with the advice of Judge Pawling. The Expences will be paid out of the Monies allowed by the Legislature for paying & subsisting the Militia when called into Service. I submit to you whether it would not be prudent to exempt two or three Persons best acquanted with the Woods &

Indians from Militia Drafts & ordinary Duty upon their serv-
as Spies & Intelligencers. I am &c.

[G. C.]

lo. Cantine.

[No. 1345.]

Colonel Jacob Klock, the Oneida Frontier and Crops.

Palatine, May 1st 1778.

Honored Sir, Some considerable Time ago I was ordered by the arquis de Lafayette, who then commanded the Northern Depart-ent, to draft eighty Men to be sent to Oneida for a Month to uild a Fort to protect the Indians of that Village, and have nce received your Excellency's Orders to raise two Companies of xty Men each. And, as the Militia of this County have never een backward on any occasion to do Duty equal to other Coun-ies, and in the Course of last Summer have suffered very much, not only in Action but also in their Crops, I cannot help repre-senting to your Excellency the Hardship of raising more Men then mentioned in your orders, as your Excellency must be convinced that at this busy season of the Year, when every Person is en-gaged in sowing their Lands, we can ill spare so many Men, and that as there has not been as yet the least Appearance of any Danger from the Westward, that a sufficient Number of Men might be spared from Fort Schuyler for that Business. I have however in Obedience to your Excellency's Commands of the 6th Ultimo had a Meeting with the Field Officers of the respective Regiments of Militia, who have unanimously agreed to recom-mend the following Persons for Commissioned Officers in the two Companies of Rangers, viz.

John Bradbick Capt.

Adam Helmer } Lieuts.
John Smith

Garret Putnam Captain

Victor Putnam } Lieutenants
Benjamin Dickson

As soon as the Drafts are compleated I shall cause Returns to be made to Col. Graham according to your Excellency's Directions, and with your approbation purpose to order one Company to Oneida.

I have not been able as yet to compleat the Return of the State of this Brigade which when finished shall transmit to you. I have the Honour to be Your Excellency's most obedient & very Hble Serv't

Jacob Klock.

Governor Clinton.

[No. 1346.]

More Friction Manifest in the Drafts for Completing the Continental Battalions.

Schonectady 26th April 1778.

Sir, Yours of the 14th Instant with the inclosed order is duly come to hand, and am oblidged to your Excellency for the confidence you have of my zeal for my country; it's my earnest design to serve my country for the Libertys of Freedom. The two gentlemen who are appointed with me, sent me a plan of which I approved, in putting the Law in execution for forwarding the drafts of the Militia. Col. Wemple of the Regiment of militia of this district, spoke to me this day whether it could not be that

the drafts out of the said Regt. could not be delivered to Colo. Gansevoort's Regt. which is stationed at Fort Schuyler and is one of the five Regiments raised in our state. Your Excellency's letter, in answer to the subject will be very necessary with all convenient speed, that I may govern myself accordingly. The drafts that are to come out of the aforesaid Regt. will not compleat Col. Gansevoort's Regt. Should your Excellency think proper that Col. Gansevoort's Regt. be compleated out of the drafts of Albany County, I would be glad to know as I have the management of this County. I am with due respect Your Excellency's most Obed't Humble Servant

Henry Glen.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor & Commander in Chief of State of New York, Poughkeepsie.

Poughkeepsie 2d May 1778.

Sir, I have received your Letter of the 26th Ultimo. By the Law for making Drafts from the Militia, for filling up the five Continental Battallions raised in this State, you will observe they are to rendevouz at Eastown so that it is not in my Power to comply with Colo. Wemple's Request by permitting those of his Regiment to Join Colo. Gaansevoort's as I coud wish to do. I expect you will loose no Time in forwarding the Drafts to the Place assigned for their Rendevouz & am Your most Obed't Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

[To Henry Glen.]

[No. 1347.]

Robert R. Livingston Requests the Exemption of Six Mechanics from Military Duty.

Rhine Beck 2d May 1778.

Dear Sir, Mr. Cantine affords me an opportunity of writing to your Excellency to know whether you still retain your design to exempt Mechanicks. As the draft is now over in the Manor & at this place to fill up the regiments, I must beg the favor of exemptions for three men for my mother & as many for me, as our work is at a stand for want of them. Indeed, I have been detered from beginning till I should receive it.

John Strang talked to me this morning about the place of surrogate for the County of West Chester; as he is a deserving lad, & it is probable there will not be many candidates for this place I take the liberty to mention him to your Excellency.

I congratulate you upon the good news from France, which, tho' it has induced Lord North to alter his language, has not been sufficient to teach Tryon good policy, or good maners; the Idea that the present leaders in this controversy are the Authors of the mischiefs & misfortunes of the Country being inconsistent with both. The Tories among us, promise themselves much from this plan of administration & think that the people are so weary of war as to compel us to a peace—happily it works contrary to their expectation & will be under heaven one means of securing our independence. I am D'r Sir with the greatest esteem Your Excellency's Most Ob't Hum. Serv't

Robt. R. Livingston.

[To Governor George Clinton.]

[No. 1348.]

ral McDougall Forwards Packets from Congress to Governor Clinton and Questions the Actions of Captain Roosevelt.

Head Qurs. Fish Kill 2d May 1778.

ear Sir, I send you by Bearrer five Packets from Congress; e of them contain the Draughts of the Bills with remarks by igress: copies of which have been inclosed to me. A Captain, n Rosovelt a Parade captain of Col. Lasher's Battalion, quited service before the Enemy Landed on Long Island & remained New York. He is now I am informed at Reed Hook; and I r he may have been sent out by Governor Tryon for no good rpose; he came out some time ago via San ——*. His charac- by his conversation is very suspicious. As he is a Citizen he ls more immediately under your cognisance. Certain it is that e rout, and the manner of his coming into this state is very ex- ptionable; for I do not learn that he has called on any officer vil or Military in this state. I am Dear Sir, Your Humble Ser- ant

Alex'r McDougall.

To Governor George Clinton.]

[No. 1349.]

Colonel Robert Van Rensselaer Requests that a Part of His Regiment Remain to Protect the Claverack District from Tories.

Claverack 2d May 1778.

I received his Excellency's commands this day for one fourth of my Regiment to march to Fish Kills as a reinforcement to Genl. Gates's army. In consequence of which have ordered my

*Indecipherable.

Officers to have their proportions ready for the March agreeable to your Orders.

I thought it prudent to acquaint your Excellency that yesterday, I received an Order from Genl. Ten Broeck for one fourth of my Regiment to march to the relief of our Friends at Schohary, who are to march to-morrow morning, a Copy of which is inclosed. Thinking he might not be apprised of it, and that this Neighbourhood is infested with a Number of Villains who plunder the Houses of the well affected inhabitants, in pursuit of whom my Regiment has been employed for several weeks. one eight part having been in rotation upon duty for five weeks past, by which they have been exceedingly Harrassed, if his Excellency upon these considerations should think proper, to exempt us from this Tour, it will be very agreeable to the Inhabitants of this part of the District, as they are very apprehensive of having their Houses pilfered, shall Order the men to march unless countermanded by his Excellency. I am his Excellency's most humble Serv't,

Robt. V'n Rensselaer.

To his Excellency George Clinton.

[No. 1350.]

THE EXTREME NORTHERN FRONTIER.

Governor Clinton Supplies Colonel John Williams with Sound Military and Civil Information.

Poughkeepsie 2d May 1778.

Sir, I have received your Letter of the 25th April & am happy to learn that the apprehensions of Danger from the Enemy in your Quarter was without Foundation & that the Militia mai-

ted so good a Spirit when they had Reason to believe the emy were advancing. I hope you will be able to raise the mpany in Charlotte for the Defence of your Frontiers with: the aid of any other Regiment. It was from the Encouragent you gave me in a former Letter, I was induced to confine raising of that Company to your County, and is is now too e to make any alteration without disconcerting the whole angement made for raising the Men directed to be called to active Service from this State. If however the Gentlemen ou mention can procure a Number of Volluntiers out of any ther Regiment there can be no Objection to his so doing & I hall have none, to his having a Command in Capt. Barnes Company equal to his present in the Militia Regt. to which he bengs. I flatter myself that Capt. Barnes Company when comleated & such Continental Troops as may be stationed in your Quarter will give Security to the Inhabitants & enable them o sow & reap in Peace. I inclose you one of the Militia Laws y which you will observe it is your Duty to order out all or ny Part of your Regiment on the approach of the Enemy without waiting for Orders, reporting the same immediately to the Commander in Chief, the Militia who are able are to equip & provide themselves with arms & ammunition.

I am sorry to hear that your Civil Magistrates have not yet qualified. The Reasons to which you impute it, I mentioned o the Council of Appointment at their first meeting after you eft this Place, but as they did not see fit to make any alteration n the appointments they had made, the Commission was of Course forwarded to your County in the Order it first stood The Reasons you offer for declining to Quallify & Act as a Civil Magistrate, however good they may be, will by no means

Justify a Resignation of your Military Command when you cant pretend any Injury has been offered you—might it not be well to consider this before you determine. I will again mention your Case to the Council. If I can procure a Copy of the act for raising the 700 Men for the Defence of the State it shall be forwarded to you. I am your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Since Writing the above I have thought it adviseable to issue the inclosed Orders which will enable you to fill Capt. Barnes Company. I have not yet been able to procure a Copy of the act for raising the State Regiment.

Colo. John Williams, Charlotte County.

[No. 1351.]

General Conway Utilizes the Services of Warner's Men.

Albany 3d May 1778.

Sir, As soon as I Learn'd that no ennemy had Landed at Tyconderoga I sent Back Greaton's and Alden's Regiments to Albany. I proceeded to fort Edward and having Learn'd that several pieces of Cannon fitt for service and mostly eigteen pounders Lay Between Skeens Borough and fort Anne and Could with some industry and intelligence be sav'd and Brought to this place, I stationn'd sixty men of Warner's Regiment at fort Edward in order to help the Batteau Men and other artificers in carrying of and conveying these Cannons to fort Anne from whence Said Cannon can be transported by water to this town. As the militia at Otter Creek were to be in service only till the second Day of this month, I got that post occupy'd by the re-

ainder of Warner's Regiment amounting to about forty or ſty men.

The two Regiments now in this town will goe Down to West oint as soon as order'd By General Gates.

I am Exceedingly happy to hear that France has at Last aken an open part in this important cause. I am confident hat the consequences will be of the greatest advantage to France and America. I am with much Esteem Sir Your Ex-ellency's Most Obed't humble servant

Th's Conway.

His Excellency Governour Clinton, Poukeepsie.

[No. 1352.]

Ebenezer Clark Accuses Colonel Williams of Blocking the Entire Civil Machinery of Charlotte County.

New Perth, County Charlotte May 4th 1778.

Sir, By this time I hope Your Excellency has received my last Confus'd Scrape about the Gentlemen appointed to the magistracey of this County refusing their Commissions, but receiving no answer must beg leave to Trouble You with this line.

Col. Williams refuseing to accept on account of Mr. Webster's Preference, has Prevented the whole Machine of Government from motion in this County. Altho I have heard no person Object to Mr. Webster's appointment Except Col. Williams.

Mr. Webster would not Scruple accepting if a Peremptory order of Your Excellency would Issue, so as to Exculpate him from the groundless reflection of Soliciting an appointment to the office of Second Judge in Preference to Col. Williams, which his being a member of the Council of Appointment gave him an opertunity to do, and his Rival *Suposes him* to have Improved.

I Received a letter from Mr. Brunson, the fourth Judge, Containing his Refusal of the office as he Conciders himself a Subject of a different State.

I am afraid that by reason of Some neglects, & the alarms we have had about the Time our Elections Should have been held—that we will be disapointed of a Representation in the Legislature the ensueing Year. Mean time with Esteem & regard I am Sir Your most obt. & very Hum'ble Serv't

Ebenezer Clark.

His Excellency George Clinton Esquire, Governor of the State of New York at Poughkeepsie.

[No. 1353.]

John Cunningham's Petition for a Reprieve.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor And Capt. General of the State of New York And Vice Admiral of the Navy of the Same.

The Humble Petition address or Remonstrance of John Cunningham Most Humbly Sheweth,

That your Petitioner is a true subject of the United States, being in the service thereof from the Beginning of this Present War and Suffered much thereby Both by sea & land.

And may it please Your Excellency, the Prisoner Cunningham has been warned two Days Before trial to Employ a loyer, he being Closly Confind among a num'r of people of an Opposite Principle, & no man admitted to visit him, being also a stranger & an Illeterate man & not able to Speake in his own deffence, tho his defence Ever so just, and also, deprived of the benefit of a loyer to plead his Case, are thereby Condemn'd to die.

The Judge of the Court told the Prisoner yt he might Petition Your Excellency for a Reprief till the Next Assizes.

The Prisoner under the afforsaid difficulty & not thereby able to Employ a Suitable Person to write his Petition, is Compelled by fatal Necessity to take this method to Inform your Excellency, that he has also Petitioned the judge for a Copy of the Proceedings of Court, but has not obtained it.

Will your Excellency therefore according to your well known Wisdom & Humanity Grant his Petition, the prisoner pleads Entirely Innocent, and by all accounts is Innocent before the allseeing eye of God in whose hands are all human Events. The God of peace will be your Excellencies Reward Which as in duty bound shall ever be the prayer of Your Excellencies Humble Petioner.

John Cunningham.

City Hall May 4th 1778.

[No. 1354.]

Captain Van Keuren's Company Petitions for the Appointment of David Monell, Instead of William Watson, as an Officer in That Company.

May it Please your Excellency, We your Excellency's most faithful Constituents intreat your Attention to this our humble petetion; that in consequence of an order from Maj'r New-Kirk to return persons for two vacancies which remained unfilled in this Company. In Compliance with said orders, two persons were returned, one of which, we find have been left out; and William Watson entered. The Consequencies of it we dread, as we must represent him to your Excellency as a troublesome man and in the highest degree unworthy an appointment; Knowing to what violent resentment and incurable disorder it will throw this company into: We are thus called upon to address your Excellency and pray that you may interpose in our behalf. We would humbly beg leave to recommend to your Excellency's notice

David Monnell, as a proper person and worthy the appointment to which Watson is returned. We shall earnestly deplore an Event that has a tendency contrary to this our humble petition.

We solemnly assure your Excellency that we not only desire an indulgence in this our request; But that your Excellency may long preside over this State, with honour to yourself and happiness to your Constituents, Is the sincere desire of your Excellency's humble petitioners.

Hendr. Vankeuren Capt., John Barber Lieut., Tunis Vanorsdel, Thos. Peacock, Johannis Miller, Jun., Jas. Monell, George Dunn, George Smith, John Welch, James McMasters, Thomas Beatty, Samuel Smith, John Harris, Andress Hart, James Wharry, Henry Rockefeller, Cristian Rockefeller, William Lewis, Robert Wharry, John Moon, John Spark McCay, Stephen Goldsmith, Charles Haines, Joseph Elder, John McClean, William Davis.

Hanover May 4th 1778.

[Petition "granted."]

[No. 1355.]

DISSENSIONS IN THE HAMPSHIRE GRANTS.

Colonel John Williams Requests Governor Clinton to Circulate His Proclamation.

White Creek May 4th 1778.

Hon'd Sir, I have been on the New Hampshire Grants these four days Past and am exceedingly Sorry to find that notwithstanding my Utmost Endeavour your Late Proclimation & Overtures have been Secreeted or kept from the Inhabitants in General in such manner as they have not been made acquainted with them, by which they are now become very uneasey, and I believe if a little pains were taken they may be easily brought to their

allegiance to this State. I wrote to you some time since Respecting this matter, Requesting you would Send me some of the Proclimations and must again remind you of it. You Inform'd you [me] that you would lay the matter before the Legislature in order to asertain the manner those Inhabitants were to apply & to whom they might send there names. I can easily conceive that the Inhabitants are getting into disentions; and make no Doubt if they knew how to proceed in Sending their names in a Secreet manner, but one half would do it in a few weeks, was the Places affixed Contigious to them—numbers hath lately applied to me for that Purpose as you will See by some who requested me to Send the Inclosed to you. I was with some of their Pretended Council a few days Since; who Inform'd me that if the Overture meant, that where a Township having been granted under New Hampshire, and Possession taken in Consequence thereof, before granted under New York should be Confirm'd To the Inhabitants that this State would gain the Point. I inform'd them that I was of the Opinion If the Overtures was not altogether what they wanted, they ought to Inform the Legislature of it and I believe you may expect an answer Soon.

Two Diserters came in Last Friday night into Dorset, have been Sixteen days from St. Johns, Informs us that the Enemy are moving the Cannon over the Carrying place towards Monntreall, That there was a general talk of the French being in the mouth of the River St. Lawrence. That Governor Charlton had ordered a number of the Canadians from every Parish to take up arms, and on their Refusal Sent the German Troops to Compell them, on which an Engagement Ensued and fifty Germans Fell. That a Great Sickness had attended them and Scearce any Savages was with them.

There is no Enemy now Nearer than about Twelve Miles this Side Point Lefair. The Rangers are Out on the Frontiers, but they Recruit Very Slowly. However Since I received your letter of the 24th Ult. the Inhabitants Seems to be well pleased, and are all hands Getting in their Crops.

Very Unfortunate no advertizments hath appeared for a new Election nor did I see the Act till too late, and I believe that only one District Voted on the day appointed, where the fault lies I know not. The Commissioners for Detecting Conspiracies &c. goes on well and I hope we shall be at peace again (in the County) soon. I am with the greatest Respect & Esteem Your most Obed't & most Hum'le Serv.

Jno. Williams.

P. S. I must beg you'll not Omitt Sending the Proclimations.

To Governor Clinton.

[No. 1356.]

Medicines for the British Hospital at Albany.

White Plains May 4th 1778.

Sir, Cap. Acker tels me he left the medicine for the British Hospital at Albany, with Mr. Mandevel in the High Lands near Beverly Roberson's & that Genl. Parsons promised him to send them to His Excellency the Gov'r. I am yo's &c.

Morris Graham Coll. Commanding at White Plains.

Robt. Benson.

[No. 1357.]

Drafted Men Apparently Neglected.

Poukeepsie May 4th 1778.

r, His Excellency the Gov'r (being informed that the Drafts cont'l Regts. are in many if not the most Parts

the State now compleated) has directed me to signify his Request that the Commissioners will without Delay appoint the necessary superintendants to receive the Dr'fts from the diff't Regim'ts & cause them to be forwarded with the utmost Dispatch to the Place of Rendezvous. 'Tis said the Drafts are strolling ab't the Country for want of Persons to take them in Charge & (unless the strictest attention is paid to this business) many of them after having received the Bounty will go off entirely. As the Reputation of the State as well as that of his Excellency (who was entrusted w'th the appointm't of Commiss'rs) is materially concerned in its not being behindhand in prosecuting this Matter with as mush dispatch as our Neighbours, he therefore requests that you & the other Commissioners will exert yourselves on this occasion. I am Sir Yours &ca.

R. Benson, P. Secry.

Jonathan Lawrence, Esqr.

[No. 1358.]

TROUBLES OF THE TWELFTH ALBANY.

Crops Lost by the Burgoyne Campaign—Families Threatened by Savages—They Ask to Be Exempt from the Draft.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the State of New York, General of all the militia and Admiral of the navy of the Same.

The Petition of the field Officers and Captains of the 12th Regt. of Militia of the County of Albany, in behalf of themselves and the other Officers, Non Commissioned Officers, and privates of Said Regiment

Humbly Sheweth,

That last Summer when the enemy under General Burgoyne were comeing down the *North River*, the most of your Petitioners

were obliged to move from their Habitations at Such Short notice, that they lost the greatest part of their Crops, and a great part of their Stock and other Effects; And it was So late in the Season before they dared return that very flew of them were able to Sow any Winter grain; which makes it the more immediately necessary for them to exert their utmost endeavours to procure Summer grain for the Support of themselves and Familys; And as Some of them are immediately exposed to the inroads of the Savages Shoud they be again let loose on the frontier Inhabitants; they expect (Shoud the war continue to be frequently alarmed, and taken from their business, if nothing worse Shoud happen) and by that means be dissenabled, to find their familys even the necessarys of life. That your Petitioners understand by an act of the legislature of this State passed the 1st of April last, that there is a draft of the 15th man orderd from certain Regiments of Militia, to fill up the five Continental Battalions raised under the direction of this State. That your petitioners further understand by said Act, that your Excellency has it in your power to Dispense with the Same So far as it concerns Such Regiments as have since the 1st of January last furnished, or have been or Shall be orderd to furnish men for any Service, or to Lessen the number of drafts to be furnished by Said Regiments, as to you may Seem meet.

That your Petitioners have furnished above a fifteenth man Since the Said 1st of January for a four months Service which wants a considerable time yet of being expired.

This Consideration added to our Distressed circumstances we hope will induce your Excellency to favour us in the present draft; either by discharging us altogether therefrom, or by lessening the number of men we are to furnish; or if neither of these ca

consistently be done, by allowing us to raise a few men for the Defence of our own frontiers in lieu of said draft. And your Petitioners as in duty bound will pray.

Jacobus Van Schoonhoven Collo. Stephen White Capt.

James Gordon Lieut. Coll. Nanning Visscher Capt.

And'w Mitchell 2d Major. Joshua Losee Capt.

Tyran's Collins Capt. Elies Steenbergh Capt.

May 4th 1778.

Genl. Orders.

The Company ordered to be raised for the defence of this State to continue in Service for the space of one Year to be computed from the 1st Day of Jan'y last & to be commanded by Jno. Barnes is to consist of eighty men includ'g noncommissioned officers instead of seventy as heretofore ordered.

The Regt. of militia in the County of Albany commanded by Colo. McCrea & the two Companies of the 12th Albany Regt. of Militia in Balls-Town are to furnish quotas of men for that Company according to the strength of the diff't Corps from which they are to be raised, to be proportioned by the command'g Officers of the same who are to meet for the purpose; in consideration whereof the s'd Regt. & Companies shall be exempted from furnishing Drafts for fill'g up the 5 cont'l Battalions raised in this State agreable to the act of the Legislature passed last Session for that purpose.

One of the Subaltern Officers for Capt. Barnes' Company to be taken from Colo. McCrea's Regt. or from the two Companies of Balls-Town & provided the greater proportion of the men be raised from that Regt. & the s'd two Companies then they are to give both the Subaltern Officers.

The Company when raised is to be divided into two Parts; the one under the immediate command of Capt. Barns to consist of 50 men, is to be so disposed of as to give protection to the Inhabitants ag't the Enemy that may penetrate by the way of Lake George or Skeensborough—the other under the command of a Subaltern, so as to cover the Western & Northern Frontiers of Saratoga & Ballstown, or to be employed in such other Services as his Excell'cy the Gov'r shall think proper.

[No. 1359.]

Governor Clinton Consents to Exempt Mechanics from the Draft Conditionally.

Poukeepsie May 4th, 1778.

Dear Sir, I have just received a Duplicate of a Letter from Mr Abraham Livingston Dated Charles Town South Carolina 31st March last which mentions that the Sum of £927: 17: 6 i raised by Subscription in that State for the Relief of such of th Inhabitants of Kingston who suffered by the Enemy last Fa and that the Money tho not yet received was forwarded to me be distr[ib]uted accordingly & may therefore be daily expecte

The Drafts for filling up the Continental Battallions being I this Time compleated, I mean to grant Exemptions from ordina Militia Drafts such as the Person administring the Goverm't of I own authority may make for a Number of Mechanicks who w agree to work at Reasonable Wages for such of the Inhabitan as were burnt out by the Enemy last fall & are rebuilding proper Application being made to me for the Purpose. W best Compliments to your own & Brothers Families I am Yo &c

[G. C.

Governor Clinton Decides that Drafted Men Shall Be Assigned to Any Post Within the State.

Poughkeepsie 4th May 1778.

Dear Sir, I have received your Letter of the 2d Instant together with a Petition from Capt. Gardner's Company to be exempted from furnishing their Quota of Men for Capt. Bell's Company of Colo. Graham's Regiment or rather that they may be stationed in that Neighbourhood as a Guard on their own Shore. In answer to which I can only say that it is my Intention, that the Men raised in your Regiment shall be employed as a Guard to the South End of the County of Orange unless the Service of the State may absolutely require them elsewhere and the Situation of affairs in your County such as will admit of it; & It is my design to station them from Time to Time where they will afford the Inhabitants of your Regiment in general most safety & prevent the Enemy obtaining Supplies. By the Law authorizing the raising of this Regiment it is expressly declared to be for the Defence of the State. You will readilly perceive, therefore, the Impropriety of my Entring into any Promise or Engagement to station any Part of it at a particular Place—which you will please to mention & explain to the Petitioners. I am sensible they have been greatly harrassed & distressed by the Enemy but so have their Neighbours to the Southward of them, & the People of West Chester, Charlotte & Tryon Counties, yet they have furnished an equal Proportion of Men for the present Service without stipulating as to the Place at which they shoud be stationed. I have not a Quire of Paper in the World so that I cannot order you a supply nor can I direct you where to procure any. I am your most G. C.

To Colo. Hay.

[No. 1361.]

TRYON'S INSIDIOUS METHODS.

Sends, Through a Flag of Truce, Bundles of English Literature to Deceive and Delude Patriotic Americans.

Poughkeepsie, 4th May 1778.

Dear Sir, The Bearer Mr. Hunt, Adjudant of Colo. Graham's Regiment, who expected to find you at Fishkill, but being disapointed came forward to me, is charged with a large Bundle of Packages (sent out Under the Sanction of a Flagg by Mr. Tryon to the Commanding Officer at our Lines) directed to Gov'r Trumbull, Genl. Putnam and various Committees of different Districts in this State & Connecticut. I have opened one of them, which was directed to the Committee & find inclosed the late Conciliatory Bills of the British Parliament & two late York Papers printed by Robertson to serve the same Wicked Purpose of deceiving the People. The several Bundles directed to this State I have locked up. The others will be delivered to you by the Bearer to be disposed of as you shall Judge proper. Is there not a degree of Insolence & Impropriety in Mr. Tryon's Conduct in this attempting to circulate through the Country under the Sacred Sanction of a Flagg Printed hand Bills evidently calculated to seduce & Intimidate the Subjects of the United States from their Duty & Allegiance? It strikes me as very indecent and improper. If realy so I trust you will give him a Word of Reproof. I am with particular Esteem Your Most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

I have nothing new from the Northward or any other Quarter since I wrote you last.

The Hon'ble Major Genl. Gates.

[No. 1362.]

Relative to the Exchange of Certain Families.

Sir, Immediately on my arrival at New York I forwarded Mrs. Rappleyes Letter acquainting her at the same time that her Family and Effects were Exchang'd for Mrs. Clopper and that I had procur'd the Genl's consent to let them Pass unmolested. The answer I receiv'd was that her Father would by no means consent to parting with her, would much rather her Husband should come to her, Be assured, Sir, we have been anxiously sollicitous about the accomplishment of our Promis which has hitherto prov'd in vain. If you, Sir, will be Pleas'd to Point out a Family in exchange, every Endeavour shall be exerted to forward them with their Effects, for which I have obtain'd the Genl's consent. Be pleas'd to offer my best regards to Mrs. Clinton whose friendly attention to me when in Distress has impress'd my mind with the warmest gratitude. And give me leave, Sir, after wish'ng you Health and Happiness to subscribe my self your Friend

Catharine Turnbull.

the 4 May 1778.

You will oblige me much, Sir, if it's possible to permit our Furniture remaining at Clavarack to Pass down the River.

Madam, I am favoured with your Letter of the 24th of last Month. It is with concern I learn that Mrs. Clopper has not been able to perfect her Exchange for the Familly and Effects of Mrs. Rappelye. I am Confident Mrs. Clopper is desireous of fulfilling her Engagement, & I, therefore, take this Earliest Opportunity of substituting for her Exchange the Familly & Ef-

fects of Mrs. Boorem of Kings County on Long Island instead of Mrs. Rappelyes. Colo. Van Allen will have orders to send down your Furniture by the next Conveyance practicable. I am with great Respect Your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

[To Mrs. Catharine Turnbull.]

[No. 1363.]

Secretary of State Scott Incapacitated by an Attack of Rheumatism.

Hurley May 5th 1778.

Sir, I am sorry to be obliged to inform you of the utter Impossibility of my present attendance on the Council of Appointment. A severe fit of the Rheumatism in the Back of my Head & Neck renders the least Motion extreamly painful to me. So that, even besides the danger of increasing my Complaint by travelling, the most moderate Exercise would be intolerable to me. All the assurance, therefore, which I can give is that I will attend as soon as my disorder will permit. I am sorry that our distance is so great that the better health of yourself and the other Gentlemen will not permit our being together notwithstanding my Indisposition. For no man regrets delay in the Business of appointments more than I do. I am making out a Copy of the act for altering the Judgment in Cases of Treason; which Mr. McKesson has sent for. I have forgot the Title of the other act which Mr. Yates wanted; if he will send it to me I will have the Copy made for him. I am Sir respectfully, Your Excellency's most obed't Serv't

Jno. Morin Scott.

His Excellency the Gov'r.

[No. 1364.]

Colonel Wynkoop Reports the Launching of a Gunboat and Asks for a Pass for Mrs. Ray.

Coeyemans 5th May 1778.

Sir, Mrs. Ray Stopt here on her passage (she hopes) down to New York; she requested of me to beg of your Excell'cy to give her what assistance she needs in order to have a Clear passage down.

I, therefore, take the Liberty to request of your Excellency if it can consistently be done to permit her to Go to her husband.

As a number of the artificers I have employed here were of the four months militia who were discharg'd from that Service, and in consequence of that discharge have Left me, I wrote to Genl. McDougal to Send me about 25 Ship carpent'rs &c. but forgot to mention about the necessary tools to bring with them, which we shall be in want of. This day one of the Vessels was Launched, and in hopes to have four more in a few days, as they stand framed and busy Planking them. I am in Great haste Sir Your most Hble. Serv't

Corn's D. Wynkoop.

[To Governor George Clinton.]

[No. 1365.]

CONFUSION OVER THE NEW MILITIA LAW.

The Troublesome Question of the Exempts—Completing the Works at the King's Ferry.

Fish Kill May 6th 1778.

Sir, Your Favor of the 3rd Instant came to Hand in my absence. Major Platt informs me he has sent the men you wrote for. But I beg the Corps to be raised for guarding the Prisoners

may be expedited, as Colonel Dubois's Regiment must be collected to compleat a work at Kings Ferry to secure it in all ordinary Cases. For in its present State, a single Galley cuts off the Communication and the certain use of the Ferry. It is vain for me to ask for the assistance of the militia for some Time, altho the works advance but slowly; as I find the Draughting and new arranging them prevents it. But the works will require their assistance as soon as it can be obtained. The two inclosed Papers from Mr. Weisner will inform you of Impediments which he finds prevent their coming out. Cannot some of them be removed? If my memory serves me the Resolutions of Congress subjects the Iron ordnance above intended for the Defence of the River to your orders. I have therefore to request you to back the order for sending them down in the Inclos'd Letter to Major Stephens, seal it and send it by the Express. The small pox is still kept in this Town; I wish to have the Law that puts the Innoculation under Restrictions. If I take any violent measures to prevent it, a Clamour will be raised. General Gates is not arrived. I am Sir Your humble Servant

Alex'r McDougall.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

May 6th 1778.

Dear general, Since I Saw you I have had an oppertunity of Speaking to Coll. Hathorne who tels me that our Late malitia Law is so Constructed as to Render it Necessary for the Exemts of this State to form them Selves into Companies and Batalions and that within a Certain number of weeks, which time will very Soon Expire I am all most Shure that nothing will Be Done in Consequence of that part of the Law till the governor gives perticular order for that purpose. I therefore Beg the favour of

) mention this Sircumstance to his Excellency who I am
will doe Every thing in his power to promote the general

l Be good Enough to Excuse my writing on this small piece
er as it is all the paper that I have.

I am Sir your Humble Servant

Henry Wisner.

. I am informed Since I left West Point that the Exemts
t to full one half of the whole number, two thirds of which
r actual Servis in the five Batallions of malitia Commanded
onels Woodhull, Hathorn, Tusteen, McClaghry and Harden-
and I Expect it to Be the Case with the other Batallions
State that a great part of the men, I Believe more than one
part Claim an Exemption from military Duty: Some from
having formerly worn Commisions, Some from their hav-
en voted into offises through not haveing had Commisions,
Considerable number are Exemted By the Different tan-
who under pertence of their taning some hides for the use
publick Say, that they have orders from the Commasary
es to Exemt from milatary Duty all Such persons as they
eed for Carreying on their Buisness, many others are
ed But for what Reasons I am not able to Say.
onourable Major General McDugal at West Point fort.

[No. 1366.]

ard Thomas Appeals for an Exchange to Governor Clinton.

Provoost, N: York May 6th 1778.

r it Please Your Excellency, As Necessity is the only
ogy I can make, I hope your Excellency will the more

Readily Pardon me for intruding upon you. We have this Day had a visit from Elias Boudenot, Esqr., Commissary General of Prisoners for the United States of America, who I am Informed has nothing to do with those who are called State Prisoners, so that many of us are excluded from the Benefit of an Exchange that is now likely to take place, so that we have now no hope but from the Governour's Councils and Assembly of the Respective States to which we belong, whose Zeal and humanity we firmly confide, not doubting but what they will use every Effort, to procure an Exchange for such as have, and still are True and Loyal Subjects of the States.

I Served as a Clerk to Colo. Henry B: Livingston, of the Fourth New York Regiment, and as my Time of Service was expired, I Returned to Long Island where I formerly lived, to take some care of my private affairs, before I engaged in the Publick service for an unlimmitted Time, but was unfortunately Captivated and have been close Confined in the Provoost of this City ever since the Twenty Eighth of May, One Thousand, Seven Hundred, and Seventy Seven, and if I could be exchanged, I should (as I was before Determined) enter into the service of the United States either in the Army or Navy, and doubt not but there are many more of the same mind. I Desire your Excellency would Remember me to Colonel Will'm Floyd, Ezra Lhommedieu Esqr., and Will'm Smith, Esqr., each of which Gentlemen belong either to the Council, Assembly or Senate of the State of N: York and who are well acquainted not only with mine but with the Character of several Prisoners belonging to the State of N: York now in confinement here.

I therefore Humbly beseech Your Excellency (not only for myself but for several others,) to procure an Exchange for us,

Proposing for that purpose What Your Excellency's Wisdom shall Dictate.

I Am with the most Perfect Respect and Esteem Your Excellency's and the United States Most Obedient Subject & Servant,

Richard Thomas.

His Excellency George Clinton Governour of the State of N: York.

[No. 1367.]

Supplies for Colonel Livingston's Regiment.

Poukeepsie May 7th 1778.

Sir, Deliver to Lieutenant Elsworth, of Colo. Henry B. Livingston's Regiment for the use of the said Regiment four hundred Shirts & such a number of Breeches, Shoes, Stockings & Hatts as will be equal to one fourth part of the whole quantity of those articles, which were in Store at the time of issuing, in pursuance to the last Order in favor of Colo. Cortlandt's Regiment.

Geo. Clinton.

[No. 1368.]

President Laurens Sends Official and Unofficial Information.

York Town 8th May 1778.

Sir, My last was the 26th Ulto. by Jones since which I have received none of Your Excellency's favors admitting the Secretary's returns to be right, but I feel a kind of remembrance that I have, which shall be further examined into.

The present will Cover an Act of Congress of the 1st Inst. recommending an exemption from Militia Duty of such persons as shall be employed in manufacturing Military Stores &c. for Public service.

Regt. will be most chearfully granted to him. I am with great Respect & Esteem Your Excellency's must obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

His Excellency Genl. Washington.

[No. 1370.]

Serious Accusation Against the Tryon County Committee.

Albany ss:

Anthony Van Veghten Esqr. Sherif of the County of Tryon being sworn on the holy Evangelists of Almighty God deposeth & saith

That on or about the fifth Day of May Instant he served a writ issued out of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas for the said County in which Abraham Garretsen was Plaintiff, and Melchert Van Deursen was Defendant, in an action of Trespass on the Case for two thousand pounds Damages on the said Melchert Van Deursen. That the said Melchert Van Deursen refused to give Bail for his appearance at the next Court of common Pleas aforesaid to answer the said writ, altho this Deponent offered to leave him at large for three Days at his own Risque for the purpose of getting Bail. That thereupon this Deponent carried him to the County Goal at Johnstown & there committed him. That on the ninth Day of May Instant a number of armed men amounting to about thirty under the Command of Lieutenant George Countryman of the late Collonel Coxe's Regiment of militia, took this Deponent Prisoner at his House, & carried him to the Goal at Johnstown aforesaid, where they demanded of him the Key of the Door of the Room in which the said Melchert Van Deursen was confined. That this Deponent refused to deliver it and asked them by what authority they proceeded. That the said George Countryman shewed him written orders of which the Goaler took a Copy which original orders the Deponent read & they were in the words & Figures following for to the best of his Remembrance the said Copy was rightly taken:

"Tryon County Committee Chamber May 8, 1778.

To Capt. Deifenorfe,

Sir, You are hereby ordered to take with you twenty five men of your Company as soon as possible, proceed to the House of Anthony Van Veghten and take him with you—take also Abraham Garretsen with you and go by the way of Mr. Van Deursen's to Johnstown whare Van Veghten and your men Release Melchert Van Deursen from Confinement and at your Return bring s'd Garretsen here with you.

By order of the Committee

Wm. Wills Chairman.

N. B. If any opposition is made you are hereby ordered to the next commanding officer for assistance."

And the Deponent further saith that on his refusing to deliver the Key as aforesaid they broke open the Goal, released the said Melchert Van Deursen and carried him off with them and further that the said George Countryman was Lieutenant in Capt. Deifenorfe's Company. And further saith not.

Anth'y Van Veghten.

Sworn the 16 May 1778. Before me: John Jay.

Albany ss:

Abraham Garritson the Plaintif in the writ in the aforegoing Deposition of Anthony Van Veghten mentioned being sworn saith. That he ordered the said writ to be issued and delivered to the Sherif as specified in the said Deposition. That on Saturday last he was taken Prisoner by a Party of armed men & by them carried before a number of men who called themselves the County Committee. That the said pretended Committee insisted on his signing a Paper of which the following is a Copy.

"I Abraham Gerreson promis to come next Thursday the fourteenth Day of this Instant May to appear before the Committee at Henry Seeber's House to answer the Complaint against me made by oath of severall Persons. I bind myself my Heirs Execut'rs Admind'rs my hole Estate real and personal and all what

I have in my whole Possession to perform the above Promise as witness my Hand this ninth Day of May 1778.

Abraham Garrason.

Andreas Reber
Hendrick Walrath."

That this Deponent did accordingly appear on the Thursday af'd before the said pretended Committee of which one William Wills called himself Chairman. That they asked him how he came to issue a writ against Melchert Van Deursen he said the Law was open & he had a right to do it, to which Wills replied that the Law was not open. They then proceeded to try the Cause between him & the s'd Van Deursen, that he objected to it, that they nevertheless proceeded, cast the Dep't and ordered him to pay the Costs which he refused. That the s'd Wills then told him unless he paid it within a week he would be put to further Trouble and further saith not.

Sworn 16 May 1778. Abraham Garrason.

Before me: John Jay.

[No. 1371.]

Quartermaster Taylor Disposed to Rent Tory Farms.

N. Burgh 8th May 1778.

D'r S'r, I am loath to truble with our Bussiness, but it is Necessary to acquaint you with our present Situation, I have sent the Commissary of forage to the Commissioners for Detecting Conspireces to have some of the Torrie Farms Rented for the use of the Continent that lays most ajacent to this post, and they say they have not Rented any as yet, and they Chuse not to do it, as there is wemon in them, I understand the Commissioners for Dutches County has Rented such Farms. There is no hay to be had at any Rate, and our Teems are rendered unfit for Service, and must undoutedly Perish if not Recruited, and likewies pasture provided to keep them afterwards, Capt. Parsons will be

able to acquaint your Excellency more particularly with this matter, and likewies the Difficultie of geting Teems, and the Slackness of majistrates when applied to, by which means the service suffers amasingly. The magistrats say they have no law to act by in Such Bussiness. I am with the utmost Esteem Your Excellency's m't Ob't Hu'le Servt.

And'w Taylor, D. Q. M. G.

Governour Clinton.

P. S. My humble Respects to Lady Clinton & family.

[No. 1372.]

Congress Issues a Proclamation Requiring Our Armed Vessels to Respect the Rights of Neutrals.

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas Congress have received information and complaints, "That violences have been done by American armed vessels to "neutral nations, in seizing ships belonging to their subjects and "under their colours, and in making captures of those of the "enemy whilst under the protection of neutral coasts, contrary "to the usage and custom of Nations." To the end that such unjustifiable and piratical acts, which reflect dishonour upon the national character of these States, may be in future effectually prevented, the said Congress hath thought proper to direct, enjoin and command, and they do hereby direct, enjoin and command, all Captains, Commanders and other Officers and Seamen belonging to any American armed vessels, to govern themselves strictly in all things, agreeably to the tenor of their Commissions, and the Instructions and Resolutions of Congress; particularly that they pay a sacred regard to the rights of neutral powers, and the usage and custom of civilized nations, and on no pretence

whatever presume to take or seize any ships or vessels belonging to the subjects of princes or powers in alliance with these United States, except they are employed in carrying contraband goods, or soldiers to our enemies; and in such case that they conform to the Stipulations contained in Treaties subsisting between such princes or powers and these States; and that they do not capture, seize or plunder any ships or vessels of our enemies being under the protection of neutral coasts, nations or princes, under the penalty of being condignly punished therefor, and also of being bound to make satisfaction for all matters of damage, and the interest thereof by reparation, under the pain and obligation of their persons and goods. And further; The said Congress doth hereby Resolve and Declare, That persons wilfully offending in any of the foregoing instances, if taken by any foreign powers in consequence thereof, shall not be considered as having a right to claim protection from these States, but shall suffer such punishment as by the usage and custom of nations may be inflicted upon such offenders.

GIVEN in CONGRESS at York, in the State of Pennsylvania, this Ninth Day of May, Anno Domini One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy-Eight.

HENRY LAURENS, PRESIDENT.

Attest. CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

[No. 1373.]

Governor Clinton Unable to See His Way Clear to Appoint Albert Pawling a Lieutenant Colonel.

D'r Sir, Believe me, it is not from Negligence nor for want of a proper Sense of the Honor done me by your offer, that I have not this given a final Answer. I dare say you well know

the deserved Attachment I have for the Officers of this Corps, and will affirm with Reluctance should I leave them, did not your generous Offer point out future Advantage to me. We have been for months past in hourly Expectation of a new Arrangement. I knew not how far it might affect my Determination or the propriety of my leaving the Line. Under these Circumstances I was unwillingly obliged to defer writing you from Day to Day in Hopes of being better able to decide. The renewed Request of my Father in his Letter a few days ago received and the uncertainty of something decisive from the Committee of Arrangement determin'd me to wave the matter no longer.

I have consulted the Officers of the Regt., and am happy in their unanimous Approbation of my Accepting your polite Offer. The General whose Approbation I have likewise consulted has consented to it. If the Birth is still vacant I accept it and will repair to the Duty the moment Circumstances will admit. At this Juncture Colonel Burr has obtained Leave of Absence for 6 Weeks, and the General has particularly requested me not to leave Camp till Burr returns. I cannot refuse him. If it meets your Approbation, I should be happy to have it from under your own Hand by the first Opportunity.

My Respects to Mrs. Clinton, Granny and the Family, and am

Your most obed't Humb'e Serv't Albert Pawling.

Camp near Valley Forge 10th April 1778.

Governor Clinton.

Poughkeepsie 9th May 1778.

Dear Albert, I was favoured with your Letter of the 10th April, 11 Days ago. I am sorry that it is not in my Power to give a satisfactory answer to your Request. The Berth of Lieut. Colo. in the Regt. raised for the Defence of the State I have kept vacant,

but a Doubt now arises on the Law by which that Regiment is raised whether any other than the Officers of the Militia can be employed in it, tho at the Time the Law was before the Legislature I mentioned to several of the Members my Intentions to have others appointed, Conceiving it woud promote the public Service and actually had Major Fell appointed accordingly before the Law passed so to do. I summoned the Council of Appointment to meet as of the first of this Month to compleat the Militia Appointments, & intended to have had their Sentiments on this Subject & the Appointm't made in your Favour if it coud consistentl be done; but owing to Genl. Scott's Indisposition, (or Laziness) he did not attend & a Council without him coud not be formed I have repeated my Summons for the first of next Month & ti then I cannot give you a decisive answer. I can only add shou you incline to quit the Service you are in at present (which however I cant take upon me to advise) nothing in my Power to serve you shall be withheld, and I doubt not but Opportunities may offer. I am with great Esteem Yours sincerely

[G. C.]

P. S. I was at your Father's about 10 Days ago the Family were all well. On my Return I spent an Evening with your Friends near Hurley who were also in perfect Health. Mrs. Clinton &c. desire to be remembered to you.

[Major Albert Pawling.]

[No. 1374.]

Mrs. Gloriana Stevenson's Request Held in Abeyance.

Poughkeepsie 9th May 1778.

Madam, Your Letter of Apl. 9th was delivered to me this Day. Your Distresses Madam effect me most Sensibly and it woud give me real Pleasure to relieve you in the Way you mention was it in

my Power. The Houses of such as are gone over to the Enemy are, by a Resolve of the late Convention which operates as a Law of the States, are at the Disposal of Commissioners appointed for that Purpose. I have no authority to direct or alter their Measures but I woud fain hope that on further Consideration they will grant your reasonable Request. I am Madam your Most Obed't Serv't [G. C.]

Mrs. Gloriana Stevenson.

[No. 1375.]

Colonel Gansevoort Makes a Complaint and Asks for Clothing for His Men.

Albany 9th May 1778.

Sir, I was honor'd with your Favor of the 30th of April yesterday however disagreeable the Task impos'd upon me by it, it shall be executed with impartiality, I am exceeding unhappy at this Innovation, as I must inevitably be under the necessity of losing some good Officers.

My repeated applications for Heavy Cannon at Fort Schuyler, have never been answered either by your Excellency, Congress or Genl. Gates, and it seems as If none are to be sent. I once more beg leave to suggest to you the Necessity of sending some up, without them in case of another Investure. I predict that the Fort must fall, and my conscience tells me it will not [be] ascrib'd to me.

I should be glad to be inform'd by your Excellency where I can get some Cloathing, Shirts and Hose, in particular, the Regt. needs them much. An Officer of my Regt. will wait on your Excellency for Directions. I am with the greatest respect Your most obed't Hum'e serv't, Peter Gansevoort.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1376.]

Colonel Philip Cortlandt Applauds the New Drill Master, Baron Steuben.

Camp Valley Forge, May 9th 1778.

Sir,

Sir, The Day after I had the pleasure of Seeing you I wrote a Letter Recommending Mr. Barnardus Swartwort, Jun'r., for an Ensign in my Regiment and Expected at that time (after Seeing Genl. McDougall) to have made out an arrangment in order that the Vacancies might be filled up—but have found it Empracticable as yet, having had Several Resignations and no Return from Congress Respecting the arrangment of the army. Shall therefore omit Sending the arrangment of my Regiment and only beleive to Recommend the Two Following Persons for Ensigns: (first Barnad's Swartwort, Jun'r., and 2dly the Bearor, Joh Brown, who has been my Serjt. Major from the forming my Reg't. and is a Deserving young man. I have given Brown Recruiting Orders, and to Call on your Excellency with this Recommendation in his Favour, and beg if any Officers Should be made in the State for my Regt. that those above mentioned may be of the number, (Brown in Particular).

Doubtless ere this will Come to hand, you will hear of the Feu de Joy which took place in our army the 6th Instant in Consequence of our alliance with France. Our army is in high Spirits and Improve Very fast in our new form of Dicipline taught by Baron Stuben, who is much Respected and Esteem'd.

Deserters come in fast from the Enemy, who Inform us that the Report in Philid'a was that a party of theirs had attack'd our Camp which occasion'd the Fireing on the 6th. As I have nothing more of Consequence at present to Trouble y'r Excellency with beg lieve to Remain with Respect Y'r Obt. Humble Ser't

[To Governor George Clinton.] Philip Cortlandt.

[No. 1377.]

Carolina's Contribution to the Kingston Sufferers Duly Acknowledged.

York Town May 10th 1778.

The enclosed letter came to this place the 17th Ulto. which have been forwarded before now, but I happened to be at ter at that time. I am likeways desired by Mr. Abraham ston to forward to your Excellency the sum of Two Thou- ree hundred and Nineteen Dollars 66 / 96 eaqual to £927– 8 P dollar; this sum is herewith forwarded; the purpose ch it is sent, Mr. Livingston has no doubt advised you, and will get safe to hand; to be advised of this circumstance steem as a favour, please address for me at this place. I e honor to be Sir Your most hu: Serv't

Wm. Turnbull.

		Drs.	
57	bills is	40 ea is	2280
1	"	30	30
1	"	6	6
1	"	3	3
1	"	1/2	1/2
1	"	1/6	1/6
			2319 64 96 Dollars

cellency Governor Clinton.

ived of Governor George Clinton 2319 64 / 96 Dollars equal hundred twenty seven Pounds Seventeen Shillings & six being a Contribution made in South Carolina & forwarded Abraham Livingston for the Relief of the Inhabitants of on, which I promise to deliver for that Purpose to the

Commissioners appoi... distribute the Collecti... tributed by them accor... Hurley 13th June 1778.

Parole & the pa... Doyle to one Windsor.

General Conway Ships Heavy ... to the ...

Sir, Agreeable to the order... Excellency, Major Stevens has ... of iron Cannon, with their Com... under the care of an officer of ... acquainted with the ... Cannons are to be man... row, about Eighteen ... Destin'd for General W... Care of these arms will ... sary teams to Convey ... Lt. Coll. Safford statio... there are three shipps ... that we will be able ... this month the Canno... Anne. There is nothi... patient to hear of Ge... send me orders to joi... Excellency's Most obe...

To his Excellency ...

[illegible] you. I fear these Women coming [illegible] They are most probably charged with [illegible] in the Country & have artful [illegible] one of whom has already been [illegible] in Close Conversation with some dis- [illegible] for him.

[illegible] a Moment's Time shall be lost in [illegible] It was a heavy Job, but I hope [illegible] The Moment I can have the Prisoners [illegible] will order the Guard now here to Join [illegible] I was in hopes before this to have [illegible] would not permit. Cant you call [illegible] to see you here.

[illegible] Letter from Mr. Mason recommend- [illegible] Peter Sim & John Brown for some [illegible] they are Refugees, honnest Men & [illegible] I wond wish to serve them but [illegible] [improbable] perhaps some little [illegible] may offer for which they are fit.

G. C.

[illegible] of this Date. I am happy [illegible] entiments that Part of it [illegible] I am sorry to learn that [illegible] of the Batteries at W. [illegible] will wait upon you in a [illegible] Bodies to [illegible] Little People [illegible] examined the [illegible] ntiers. I dont

P. S. Pray send me Mr. Paterson's Parole & the papers respecting him & the Letter of one James Doyle to one ——* that we took from Miller last Fall at New Windsor.

[To General James Clinton.]

[No. 1380.]

AGAIN THE FLAG QUESTION.

Governor Clinton Distrustful of Women Who Apply for Them and in a Postcript Displays Considerable Humility.

Poughkeepsie 10th May 1778.

D'r Sir, By the inclosed Letter to my Brother you will learn the Nature of my present Business. If you think proper to Indulgence Mrs. Allison with Liberty to vissit her Husband, Colo. Allisson, who was taken at Fort Montgomery & is now a Prisoner on Long Island, you will please to signify it to my Brother with my Letter to him, which I begg you to forward before Thursday next, as I appointed Mrs. Allison to apply to him for an answer on that Day.

Mrs. Gardner passt through this to her Father's yesterday. I did not pretend to stop her, as she had your Pass but I am of Oppinion that it woud have been best at least to have changed her Drivers at the Out Post; shoud have done it here coud I have procured others whom I coud trust. I wish this might be a general Rule. It is what the Enemy [constantly do &]† the Business of the Flagg sent to H Qurs. before they are suffered to advance.

Mrs. Ludlow's Waggons also Returned yesterday with Mrs. Shaw & another Lady in them. They just stopt at my Door pretended to be much Fatiegued & went on. I was out & did not see

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* Indecipherable.

† Pen mark through words in brackets in original manuscript.

them. Pray did they call on you. I fear these Women coming out will do us misschief. They are most probably charged with Papers & Messages to distribute in the Country & have with Fellows with them as Drivers, one of whom has already been detected (I am informed) in Close Conversation with some Disaffected Persons. I have sent for him.

You may rest assured not a Moment's Time shall be lost in compleating the Block Houses. It was a heavy Job but I hope this Week will finish it. The Moment I can have the Prisoners removed from this Place I will order the Guard now here to join the Regt., to which it belongs. I was in hopes before this to have waited on you but Business wood not permit. Can you call & see me. I wood be happy to see you here.

Some Time since I rec'd a Letter from Mr. Mason recommending Mr. E. Mathew Earnest, Peter Sim & John Brown for some Imployment in the State as they are Refugees, honest Men & much distressed by the Times. I wood wish to serve them but it is not in my Power. It is not [improbable] perhaps some little Berth in the Staff of the army may offer for which they are fit. I am D'r Sir Yours Sincerely

G. C.

Since writing the above I re'd yours of this Date. I am happy to learn that by a Coincidence of Sentiments that Part of it respecting Flaggs is already answered. I am sorry to learn that you are not pleased with the Construction of the Batteries at W. Point. If I can possibly break out I will wait upon you in a Day or two at farthest. It is not common for large Bodies to use Individuals well. Genl. Gates is a great Man. Little People like you & me must submit to Insults. I have examined the Evidence ag't Ensign Adamson of the N. Y. Volluntiers. I don't

think him clear of Horse Stealing altogether. But as he is changed if you think proper I am ready to deliver him to Com'y of Prisoners.

To Ge'l McDougal.

[No. 1381.]

General McDougall Not Pleased with Kosciuszko's Work or with Flag Habit.

Fish Kill May 11th 17

Dear Sir, The night before last Mrs. Gardner with her wife Mrs. McFaran and daughter, Mrs. Shaw and maid came up to Quarters with Flags. Mrs. Gardner and Mrs. Shaw I suppose have waited on you. As they arrived here before I had any previous advice of it, I was at a loss what to do with them. I however wrote Colonels Graham and Hammon not to suffer any Flags for the future to come here under any pretence whatsoever but to send up their business, and return the Flag.

I requested Mr. Benson to procure me five Lottery Tickets if you had any unsold. If he has got them, tell him I wish to know the Numbers. I am far from being pleased with Mr. Korsuasko [Kosciuszko] constructing the Batteries, and Carrying on the works, and I fear they will not answer the expectation of the Country. I wish therefore to have an Hours conversation with you on this Subject, as soon as you can spare one. You know my Condition here or I should wait of you. General Gates is not yet arrived, nor do I learn when tis likely he will. I think I am not well treated by him and Congress. I hope this will find Mrs. Clinton better. I am Dear Sir Your Homble Serv't

Alex'r McDougal

To G. C.]

Honerad S'r, I thought proper to Enform your Excellency that Coll. Williams Shewed me a lettor wherein your Excellency mensoned me as Capt. I Stand Readdy to serve your Excellency and the publick as far as posable. I heave proceeded with agreeableness and heave Inlisted near thirty men and the others officers the Same With much Deficqualty not heaving Known the Bounty and Coll. Williams not Recived the act Raising Said men. I heave Scouting parties out Dayly to Skeenburow and Tycondtaroga and fort George; last Saterday there Came in a party to me and brought the acount that there was tow Small vasals of the Enemy at ankor at Crown Point. S'r I am Yours very humble and obediant Servant John Barns.

To his Exellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 1383.]

Major Stevens Reports the Shipment of Ordnance Stores from Albany.

Albany May 11th 1778.

Sir, In Consequence of Orders from his Excellency General Washington, by the Hands of General Knox, I have Shipped Nineteen hundred Small-arms, to go down to New Winsor by Water, thence by Land to the Grand Army.

As it is a matter of the utmost importance that these arms are forwarded without any manner of delay, I have directed him to apply to your Excellency for such Necessary Assistance, & directions as occasion may Require for procuring of Teams &c. &c.

Agreeably to an Order from Genl. McDougall, with your Excellency's Approbation; I have also Shipped 23 Iron Cannon of

different Calibers, Compleatly fixed with every Apparatus, I have now on hand, upwards of 30 pieces more, of different Calibers, that will be Ready for your Order in the Course of 18 or 20 days,—till when I am, Your Excellency's Most Obedient, Humble Serv't E. Stevens.

Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 1384.]

Colonel Hay Asks for a Copy of the Militia Law and for the Exemption of Mr. Campbell from Military Duty.

Haverstraw May 12th 1778.

Dear Sir, Agreable to your Directions I have enquired concerning the Orange Town Companies and find that it would be best to divide the Company commanded by Lt. Sickles between Captains Blauvelt and Bell.

Capt. Aary Smith desires to resign his Commission. I for my own Part have accepted of his Resignation with pleasure and have promised him to request that you would do the same; the Field Officers have meet and have appointed Dow Tallman in his Steed; if you will be so obliging as to accept of Smith's Resignation, our appointment is liked by the Officers of that Company. As I could not procure the Act for raising the Company I am ordered by you, I have ordered the same number of militia out (under the Officers that are to command the Company when raised) to relieve one another every week untill I can get the Act; if it is in print, I beg you will be so kind as to send two or three Copies of it down by the Bearer Mr. Aary Campbell, who intends to wait on your Excellency to procure an Exemption from turning out with the militia, as he has got a poor distressed Brother, who if he leaves will dye a miserable death, and he is

[illegible] cannot hire any one that will attend him

The Classes as Returned by the Severall officers to witt:	Men Returned for the Service by the Several Companys to witt:
By Lieut. Van Beuren Granedier Company 3 Classes;	Jacobus Besemer, John Read & Myndert Newkerk
By Capt. Bogardus 2 Classes & Surplusses 3 men;	Petrus Oosterhoudts Negro Philip & John Smith
By Capt. Jan L. Dewitt 2 Class and Surpluss 9;	Cornelis C. Brinck & Petrus J. Dewitt
By Mattys Dederick 3 Class & Surpluss 7;	Petrus Van Steenbergh, Edward Heermans & John McKertie
By Capt. Hend. Schoonmaker 3 Classes;	Cornelis Post, John Sperling & John Winchel
By Lieut. Philip Swart 3 Class & Surpluss 12;	Jurry Sniep John Elsworth & Benjamin Hewit
By Lieut. Jeremiah Snyder 2 Classes & Surpluss 6;	Nathaniel Conner & Petrus Oosterhoudt
By Lieut. Simon Lafever 3 Classes;	Daniel Masten Hendriecus Oosterhoudt & Gerritt Constable
By the Coll 2 Classes of the Surplusses of the Severall Companys.	Johannis J. Dewitt & Abraham Crisple

This is a true State of my Regiment as Returned to me By the Commanding officers of the Severall Companys under oath Containing 352 men.

Engaged in the Service 23 Surpluss 7

Classes Each 15 15

122
23
352

this Return by your hum'le Serv't

Joh's Snyder.

Bever Kill Ulster County May 12th 1778.

To his Excellency George Clinton.

[No. 1386.]

A Schaghticoke Petition in Behalf of David Dick.

his Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor and Commander in Chief of all the militia of the State of New York, and Admiral of the Navy of the same.

'he Humble Petition of the Subscribers Inhabitants of the trict of Schachtekoek in the Neighbourhood of David Dick, victed of being Concerned in the Robbery comitted at the dow William's in August last: Sheweth: May it Please your ellency That the abovenamed David Dick hath always been ıan of good behaviour harmless, inoffensive & ignorant; which uces us to believe that he was compelled to commit what did: by threats which others might make to him, of burning Effects or killing him in case of his alarming the neighbourd. And further as said David Dick, when he went away ld one of Mrs. Williams' Sons whose Gun he had that he uld Save it for him; and did afterwards send the Gun & some her things home to said Widow & Son.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly Pray that your Excellency ll be pleased to consider him as an object of Pity and Comssion and grant him a Pardon.

And your Petitioners (as in duty bound) shall ever Pray &c. Elezabath her X mark Williams, Hilletye Williams, Thomas P. 'illiams, Nicholas Williams, Caty X, Hartman, ———* Myndert s X mark Outhout, Omfrie Devvenport, Umphrie his X mark vonport Jun'r, Jonathan Wheelear, Stephen Oakley, Nehemiah Oakley, Patrick Eagens, Patrick Eagens Jun'r, William Upton, hn his X mark Outhout, Johannes Henner, Peter his X mark ur, Johannis his X mark Dater, Johannes Cabrel, Ludwig ıneider, Jacob Weger, J:, alt Jacob Weger, Johannis Weger, end Eibberts, ———* Johannes Henner Jun'r, Thomas his nark Wager, Johannes Deder, Philip Dater, Johannes his X k Cimmel, Christiyan his C F mark Fischer, Jeremiah Frano, Jacob D'Garmo, Samuel his X mark Burrens, Jacob Samıs, John Knickerbacker, Abraham Viele, Peter Akart, Ignas

* Indecipherable.

Kip, John Knickerbacker, Jun'r, Michgel Zilender, Andrew
Andrew his X mark Waderwax, Jacob his X mark Stove
his X mark Waderwax, Will'm McClave, Peter W. Douw
Deforeest, Thunis Visscher, Rynier Van Yeveren, Nichola
selis, Gysbert Fonda.
Schachtekoek May 13th 1778.

[No. 1387.]

John Haring Requests the Consummation of That Whe Transaction.

Orange Town May ye 13th 1

Sir, Some Days since some of my Neighbours residing State of New Jersey have been at Horse-Neck in Connecticu made a Contract for salt; they were to pay for it in wheat; a ingly the wheat was afterwards brought as far as Hudson's I whereupon they were informed that the Legislature of this had passed an Act prohibiting the transportation of wheat or out of this State without a permit from ye Governor where they have Stored their wheat.

If such an Act has Actually passed, I beg that your Excell will be pleased to Grant a permit to Capt. Abr. Haring to Tr port the said wheat, (provided it can be done Consistent with Directions of said Act) the Quantity of salt they want is a 50 Bushels and they are to give 10 Bushels of wheat for 3 of s about 20 Families are Concerned, and I can answer for their tachment to the Cause of Liberty. Should be Glad the pe Could be Sent by the Bearer. I am Your Excell'ys Most Ob and Very Humble Serv't

John Harin

To His Excellency Geo. Clinton Esquire Gov'r of the state N. Y. &c. at Poughkeepsie.

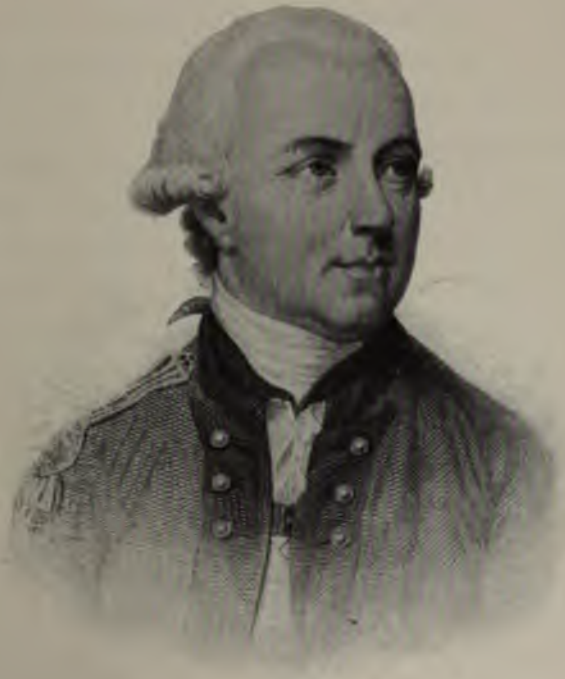
have made it my Business to distribute Copies of the Act c
gress of the 23d Ulto. enclosed in your Excellency's Letter
26th recommend'g to the several States to enact Laws or
Proclamations for granting Pardons to Persons therein desc
but as the Executive authority of this State is not invested
Power to issue Proclamations for the purpose & the Legis
after a long Session of four months have adjourned to t
Tuesday of June next, & before which time it will be im
ticable, if not impossible, to convene them; the Intentions of
gress, therefore, in that particular, cannot take Place in this
unless the Day of Grace may be prolonged. Be assured, Sir,
a due attention will be paid to every other of the matters re
mended by Congress.

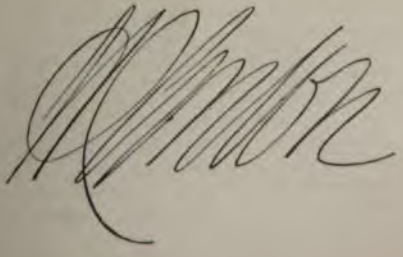
If the Report of an Embarkation of the Enemy from Phil
phia should prove true; I am apprehensive it will only b
change the Scene of action. The favorite Plan of Sir Henry
ton, for subjugat'g America, is to possess Hudson's Riv
thereby destroy the communication between the Eastern & So
ern States & I should not be surprised to hear that their w
force was collected & employed for that purpose.

I do myself the honor of enclosing to your Excellency suc
the Acts of the Legislature of this State as were passed in co
quence of recommendations of Congress and am with the gre
Respect & Esteem, Your Excellency's most obed't Serv't

Geo. Clint

P. S. I take the Liberty of enclosing to your Excellenc
Extract of a Letter just now received from Colo. Williams o





[No. 1389.]

CONGRESS ISSUES AN ADDRESS.

And President Laurens Forwards a Copy of it to Governor Clinton Together with Other Matters.

York Town 11th May 1778.

Sir, By the common Post this morning I directed a packet to Your Excellency containing about ten copies of an Address by Congress to the Inhabitants of the United States of America & I believe, two or three copies of a proclamation forbiding certain malpractices of Captains Commanders & other Officers & Seamen belonging to American Armed Vessels.

Under the present cover will be found ten other copies of the former & two of the latter Acts both dated 9th Inst.* Your Excellency will be pleased to take such measures as shall appear most effectual for communicating a general knowledge of these Papers to all the Citizens of New York. I have the honor to be With very great Regard Sir Your Excellency's Obedient humble serv't

Henry Laurens, President of Congress.

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*The address to the people was prepared by a committee of Congress and was adopted May 8, 1778. It called upon all Americans for "strenuous and unremitted exertions" to attain success for the cause in which they had embarked. It was resolved that the address should be read by "ministers of the gospel of all denominations," "immediately after divine service" to the inhabitants of the United States "in their respective churches and chapels and other places of religious worship."

The proclamation issued by Congress forbidding certain malpractices of captains, commanders and other officers, urged that the officers should pay a sacred regard "to the rights of neutral powers and the usage and custom of civilized nations, and on no pretence whatever presume to take or seize any ships or vessels belonging to the subjects or Princes or powers in alliance with these United States, except that they are employed in carrying contraband goods or soldiers to our enemies."

In such case it was provided that the officers conform to the stipulations contained in treaties. They were prohibited from capturing, seizing or plundering any ships or vessels of our enemies sailing under the protection of neutral coasts, nations or Princes "under the penalty of being condignly punished therefor and also of being bound to make satisfaction for all matters of damage and the interest thereof by reparation under the pains and obligations of their persons and goods."—STATE HISTORIAN.

12th. I have just received a Letter* from His Excy. Gen Washington inclosing one of the 10th from Sir Wm. Howe; renewing proposals for exchange of Prisoners, his present ground is, danger of Peutrid fevers from confinement in hot weather. This circumstance gives much scope for conjecture.

14th. I add a Postscript to the Pennsylvania Gazette containing Interesting Intelligence.

His Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of New York.

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*The correspondence between Washington and Sir William Howe, relative to the exchange of prisoners, was opened by the British General, who, writing from Philadelphia, February 5, 1778, expressed himself as follows:

"Sir, By advices received from Rhode Island, transmitting to me a copy of a letter from General Heath to Lieutenant General Burgoyne (copy of which is inclosed) I am informed that it is determined to detain General Burgoyne's troops in New England, until all demands for their provisions, and other necessaries, are satisfied, and that this determination is grounded, not only upon a requisition of mine for provisions to be sent in for the subsistence of the prisoners in my possession, and for the purchase of other necessaries, but upon a forgery by my agents, emissaries, and abettors, of what are called continental bills of credit. This last allegation is too illiberal to deserve a serious answer. With regard to the other, I know not from what expression, in any of my letters to you, it has been understood, that I made the requisition alluded to. You know that the allowance of provisions to prisoners from the beginning of my command, has been equal in quantity and quality to what is given to our own troops not on service. If you had thought this insufficient, you might have directed a farther supply from the markets, and were likewise at liberty to send in whatever articles you thought proper from the country. The allowance of fuel has been also regulated, as well as our means would admit, and a similar permission of purchase or supply from you, has never been refused. My letter of the 21st of April last, explained to you the extent afforded to the prisoners; cloathing, and some other necessaries, they had a right to expect from those who had been the occasion of their being exposed to the chance of captivity, and that idea I have ever understood to be mutual. But notwithstanding the remonstrances I made to you upon that point, finding that supplies were not sent in, my humanity interposed on behalf of the unfortunate men in our possession; and on a late representation of their distress, I permitted in this city, the purchase of blanketting, and such other necessaries as the severity of the winter required, and without which they most absolutely have perished.

Confident, as I am, that you will acknowledge this to be a just recital of facts, I cannot but think it unnecessary, to say any thing farther, either upon the cruelty falsely alledged to have been exercised against the prisoners, or the unjust reflections you have been so often induced to transmit to me upon that head.

In consideration, however, of the real and unavoidable distresses of the prisoners on both sides, as well as to put an end to all fruitless altercation on the subject, I shall consent to an immediate exchange of all prisoners now in our possession, as well officers as private men, so far as the number of the latter, and parity of the rank of the former, will admit. In the mean time, I shall wait the arrival here of the British officers, whom you have released upon their paroles, and shall, without delay, send an equal number to you in return.

With regard to the accompt for provisions and other necessaries, which I find by General Heath's letter, is become a pretext for infringing, if it is not intended as an absolute breach of the Convention of Saratoga, I do readily agree to the immediate appointment of commissioners, on your part and on mine, to settle that accompt, together with all other accompts for provisions, &c. furnished the prisoners on either side, and to make payment of the balance.

ave only to name your commissioners (two will, I think, be sufficient) and
a convenient place and time for their meeting two gentlemen on my part, to
e the business. The exchange of prisoners, and the accommodation of the
e that has so long subsisted between us upon that score, may be adjusted at
e time by the same commissioners, upon an equitable plan as formerly pro-
yourself.

propositions, founded as they in great measure are, upon your own suggestions,
er as now mutually agreed upon between us, and therefore I must hope to
t you are capable of carrying them finally into execution, without permitting
of men to interfere, at their pleasure, with such authority as has been vested
for the exchange of prisoners, and for the decision of all matters relating to

ave no objection to the earliest meeting of the commissioners for completing
ange and liquidating the accounts, I trust there will be no new impediment to
se of General Burgoyne's troops, but that you will give immediately such
or their embarkation upon the arrival of the transports at Boston, as will
very difficulty.

Your letters of the 20th and 30th January are received, and shall be answered
days."

y, Washington, under date of February 10, 1778, wrote to Sir William:

I received yesterday the favour of your letter of the 5th instant.

wer to whatever it contains concerning General Burgoyne's army, and the
adopted relative to it, I have only to inform you, this is a matter in which
ever had the least direction. It lies wholly with Congress, and the proposals
e on this head must be submitted to them. I have accordingly transmitted a
our letter, and I shall be ready to forward you any resolutions they may take
quence.

omit animadverting on your observations, with regard to the allowance and
t to prisoners in your hands; it is a subject which has been freely discussed
ogress of our correspondence, and the necessity of a further investigation is
d, by your now meeting me on the ground I have so long wished.

wers under which I act, are entirely derived from Congress, and must of
subjected to such modifications as they may think proper, according to the
nces, to prescribe. But holding myself fully authorized by their instructions
tions, to avail myself of the reasonable terms you are at this time willing to
the mutual relief of prisoners, I shall explicitly close with your propositions
llowing effect.

exchange of all prisoners now in our possession, officer for officer, soldier
r, citizen for citizen, so far as number and rank will apply, be carried into
as expeditiously as the nature of the case will admit, and without regard to
overted point, which might prove an impediment to so desirable an end. And
I may not clearly understand your meaning, when you say, "In the mean
hall wait the arrival of the British officers, whom you have released upon
oles, and shall, without delay, send an equal number to you in return." I
sion to request you will be pleased to favour me with an explanation whether
d to consider such officers on both sides, as still continuing under the obligation
le, or as absolutely exchanged, in pursuance of the general cartel. I [illegible]
hy an effectual exchange should not at once operate with respect to them.

agree, that two commissioners from me, shall meet a like number from you
nth day of March, in German Town, at the King of Prussia Tavern, eleven in
oon, to adjust upon equitable terms the difference you mention, and such other
s they may be severally empowered to determine.

spect to a general settlement of accounts, as it comprehends points with which
authority to interfere, it is not in my power to concur in the measure you
or that purpose. I am under the necessity of referring it to the determination of

ring a general exchange as finally agreed on between us I shall without delay
the prisoners, in our hands, to places in the vicinity of your different posts
respective situations may render most convenient, and shall give you notice
rrive, that you may return a number equal to those sent in from time to

This correspondence was closed by Sir William Howe, writing under date of February 14, 1778, from Philadelphia, to Washington, as follows:

"Sir, I have received the favour of your letter of the 10th instant, in consequence of which I shall send two commissioners to meet those on your part of German Town, on the day appointed.

The distresses which from too good authority I understand the lower class of prisoners labour under, induce me to request you will give such directions as may expedite the exchange of the non-commissioned officers and private men, in the mode you have proposed; and as the foreigners and British must be equally desirous of their liberty, and equally considered in the general release, I trust you will direct that the prisoners sent in, are proportioned as nearly as the numbers of each in your possession and their situation will admit.

With respect to the exchange of commissioned officers, you will permit me to premise, that this must be governed by the release of the Hessian field officers taken at Trenton, and Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell of the 71st regiment, who have not only been longest confined, but have hitherto been the objects of particular exception, the exchange for those gentlemen, as well as for the other officers, will then take place, as is agreed upon. This will explain the meaning of the paragraph in my letter quoted by you, with respect to the release of officers upon parole, prior to the arrival of Lieutenant Colonel Campbell, and the Hessian field officers—I desire to be understood, that in this general exchange, the officers and soldiers belonging to the army commanded by Lieutenant General Burgoyne, who were taken prior to the Convention of Saratoga, are to be considered within the description of prisoners, equally with those of the army more immediately under my command.

It seems necessary, with regard to citizens, to postpone the exchange of them, until the meeting of the commissioners, who by a personal discussion, may finally ascertain the distinctions and equality of the persons to be exchanged."

From Philadelphia under date of March 24, 1778, Sir William Howe had written to Lord George Germaine:

"I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the enemy's intended invasion of Canada by way of the Lakes, as mentioned in my last dispatches, has failed from disappointments in collecting the troops and stores proposed for that enterprise. The Marquis de la Fayette, I learn, is returned from Albany to the army in this province, and General Conway remains in New England to command, as it is said, an army on that side, which is designed to act either against New York or Rhode Island. The Generals commanding at those posts are apprized of the intention, and as the troops stationed at those places, with the navy co-operating, are in my opinion adequate to their defence, I have not any apprehension for their safety.

If I may judge from the late proceedings of the Congress, relative to General Burgoyne and the troops under the Convention of Saratoga, there is little doubt of a determination being taken to detain them, even under the most frivolous pretences. That your Lordship may be fully informed of every transaction relative to General Burgoyne since his arrival in the neighbourhood of Boston, I have the honour to inclose copies of the most material papers that have passed between him, myself, and others on the subject of his situation, and as this business has been unavoidably blended with the state of prisoners in general, I have ranged the correspondences relative to both in a regular succession, by which your Lordship will observe the difficulties that may be expected in reconciling the objections which are made, and in the adjustment of a general cartel. The time appointed for the meeting of the Commissioners being postponed by General Washington to the 31st of this month, without assigning any satisfactory reason, leads me to believe that neither he, or those under whose authority he acts, are sincere in their professions to carry an exchange into execution at this time. The Admiral is daily expected here from Rhode Island; but as his arrival may be retarded, I have thought it advisable to dispatch the Sandwich Packet for England, and waiting in humble expectations of his Majesty's commands."

May 26, 1778, the House of Commons considered the state and condition of Burgoyne's army, which was surrendered at Saratoga, and "also by what means Lieutenant General Burgoyne, who commanded that army, and was included in that convention, was released, and is now returned to England."

In the course of seconding the motion, John Wilkes said:

"I rejoice that the honourable member is now among us, for I hope to obtain from him that information, which ministers have denied to this House. I think that information ought to include every transaction of moment from the General's leaving Europe to his embarking from America. Truth will, I am persuaded, at length reach the public ear. I do not, however, Sir, in this fair and full historical detail mean to include a relation of the military operations of the last campaign. The House may not be competent to a decision on those subjects. But, Sir, I would go much farther than the honourable gentleman who made you the motion. I would closely pursue the steps of those who with unhallowed feet invaded America. A nice sense of national honour calls upon us to enquire into the causes of the loss of an entire British army by a disgraceful capitulation, into the particulars of the treaty with the savages, their conduct during the campaign, the imputed cruelties, and particularly the setting fire to villages and houses of the country people, without any apparent necessity from military motives. These important considerations, with many others, are not comprehended in the motion of the honourable gentleman.

Sir, I desire it may be understood that I do not rise to bring a charge against the commander in chief; but as a public man, to ask that information which can best be had from an intelligent officer of high rank, just returned from the great scene of action. I am sure he will most willingly give it to the House. Every gazette of Europe and America has published the disgrace of our arms at Saratoga, the ignominious terms of the convention, the charges of frequent murders and massacres of the defenceless inhabitants, and the wanton devastation and burning of the country by the British troops."

General Burgoyne delivered on this occasion, a memorable speech, from which the following extract is taken:

"Sir, in regard to the call made upon me by the same honourable gentleman, for explanation respecting the burning of the country during the progress of the army under my command, I am ignorant of any such circumstance; I do not recollect more than one accident by fire; I positively assert there was no fire by order or countenance of myself, or any other officer, except at Saratoga. That district is the property of Major General Scuyler of the American troops; there were large barracks built by him, which took fire the day after the army arrived upon the ground in their retreat; and I believe I need not state any other proof of that matter being merely accident, than that the barracks were then made use of as my hospital, and full of sick and wounded soldiers. General Scuyler had likewise a very good dwelling-house, exceeding large store-houses, great saw-mills, and other out-buildings, to the value altogether perhaps of ten thousand pounds; a few days before the negotiation with General Gates, the enemy had formed a plan to attack me; a large column of troops were approaching to pass the small river, preparatory to a general action, and were entirely covered from the fire of my artillery by those buildings. Sir, I avow that I gave the order to set them on fire; and in a very short time that whole property I have described was consumed. But, to shew that the person most deeply concerned in that calamity did not put the construction upon it which it has pleased the honourable gentleman to do, I must inform the House, that one of the first persons I saw, after the convention was signed, was General Scuyler. I expressed to him my regret at the event which had happened, and the reasons which had occasioned it. He desired me to think no more of it; said that the occasion justified it, according to the principles and rules of war, and he should have done the same upon the same occasion, or words to that effect. He did more—He sent an aid-de-camp to conduct me to Albany, in order, as he expressed, to procure me better quarters than a stranger might be able to find. This gentleman conducted me to a very elegant house, and, to my great surprise, presented me to Mrs. Scuyler and her family; and in this General's house I remained during my whole stay at Albany, with a table of more than twenty covers for me and my friends, and every other possible demonstration of hospitality; a situation, painful it is true in point of sensibility at the time, but which I now contemplate with some satisfaction, as carrying undeniable testimony how little I deserved the charges of the honourable gentleman; and I leave it to his feelings, whether, after this explanation, some farther apology is not due to me."

This part of the speech was omitted from the original report and was delivered *separately upon a second call of Mr.* Wilkes.—STATE HISTORIAN.

[No. 1390.]

GOVERNOR CLINTON PRAISES JAY AND McDOUGALL.

News from France Pronounced Interesting—Disturbed Over the Vermont Business.

Poughkeepsie 14th May 1778.

Dear Sir, I am favoured with your Letters of the 15th April & 1st Instant. The News from France* is indeed most interesting & agreeable and arived very seasonably to assist in filling up our army & to give new Life to the Militia who began to be rather languid.

I enclose you the arangements returned to me by Colo. Du Bois & James Livingston of their respective Regiments. The latter is far from being perfect and as I have not the least Knowledge of any of the Officers I am not able to make it so or even to add to it. The former is compleat, tho there are some Officers left out

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*March 13, 1778, the Marquis de Noailles presented to Lord Weymouth, the English minister at Paris, the following:

"The under-signed ambassador from his most Christian Majesty, has received express orders to make the following declaration to the court of London:

The United States of North America, who are in full possession of independence, as pronounced by them on the fourth of July, 1776, having proposed to the King, to consolidate, by a formal convention, the connection begun to be established between the two nations, the respective plenipotentiaries have signed a treaty of friendship and commerce, designed to serve as a foundation for their mutual good correspondence.

His Majesty being determined to cultivate the good understanding subsisting between France and Great Britain, by every means compatible with his dignity, and the good of his subjects, thinks it necessary to make this proceeding known to the court of London, and to declare at the same time, that the contracting parties have paid great attention, not to stipulate any exclusive advantages in favour of the French nation; and that the United States have reserved the liberty of treating with every nation whatever, upon the same footing of equality and reciprocity.

In making this communication to the court of London, the King is firmly persuaded he will find new proofs of his Majesty's constant and sincere disposition for peace; and that his Britannic Majesty, animated by the same sentiments, will equally avoid every thing that may alter their good harmony; and that he will particularly take effectual measures to prevent the commerce between his Majesty's subjects and the United States of North America from being interrupted; and to cause all the usages received between commercial nations to be, in this respect, observed, and all those rules which can be said to subsist between the two crowns of France and Great Britain.

In this just confidence, the under-signed ambassador thinks it superfluous to acquaint the British minister, that the King his master, being determined to protect effectually the lawful commerce of his subjects, and to maintain the dignity of his flag, his

who were taken at Fort Montgomery & are now Prisoners of whom I entertained a good Oppinion, yet I dont know that the arangem't can be ammended; I have entered the Names of such of them as I am able to recollect on the back of the Returns. I wrote to Colos. Gaansevoort & Warner at the same Time that I did to the other Gentlemen, but have not yet received their Returns or any answer to my Letters; as soon as they come to Hand they shall be forwarded to you. I shoud have addressed myself on this Occassion officially to your Committee on this Subject had the Returns been more perfect.

Jay is attending the Duties of his Office at Albany; he fills the Bench with great dignity & pronounces the Sentences of the Court with becoming Grace. It is to be lamented that he has had already so many Opportunities to display his abilities in that Way but it is unavoidable. Livingston attended the Council of Revision pretty steadily. He left this when the Legislature adjourned with a Determination to rebuild his House but I hear he

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Majesty has, in consequence, taken eventual measures in concert with the United States of North America."

March 17, Lord North presented this document to the House of Commons, and also the following message from his Majesty George III:

"George R.

His Majesty having been informed, by order of the French King, that a treaty of amity and commerce has been signed between the court of France, and certain persons employed by his Majesty's revolted subjects in North America, has judged it necessary to direct, that a copy of the declaration, delivered by the French ambassador to Lord Viscount Weymouth, be laid before the House of Commons; and at the same time to acquaint them, that his Majesty has thought proper, in consequence of this offensive communication on the part of the court of France, to send orders to his ambassador to withdraw from that court.

His Majesty is persuaded, that the justice and good faith of his conduct towards foreign powers, and the sincerity of his wishes to preserve the tranquility of Europe, will be acknowledged by all the world; and his Majesty trusts, that he shall not stand responsible for the disturbance of that tranquility, if he should find himself called upon to resent so unprovoked and so unjust an aggression on the honour of his crown, and the essential interests of his kingdoms, contrary to the most solemn assurances, subversive of the law of nations, and injurious to the rights of every sovereign power in Europe.

His Majesty, relying with the firmest confidence on the zealous and affectionate support of his faithful people, is determined to be prepared to exert, if it shall become necessary, all the force and resources of his kingdoms; which he trusts will be found adequate to repel every insult and attack, and to maintain and uphold the power and reputation of this country. G R."

An acrimonious debate followed the presentation of these messages.—STATE HISTORIAN.

is gone to Jersey on a Vissit with Mrs. Livingston. I will wait on my old Friend, Gates, the moment I hear of his Arival; we were well pleased with Genl. McDougal & the Exchange, therefore, is not considered as a Favour, Be assured I will do every Thing in my Power to promote the Designs of Congress in sending us Genl. Gates & to render his Command agreable. I cannot conclude without expressing my Anxiety about our Vermont Busines, as the longer it is left unsettled the more difficult it will be to accomplish. I am D'r Sir with great regard Yours Sincerely,

G. C.

Gov'r Morris Esqr.

The Legislature is to meet by adj't on the 2d Tuesday of next Month. I believe there will be few changes by the New Election. I fancy Mr. Cortlandt will be Lieut. Gov'r.

[No. 1391.]

A PLAN TO BUILD UP THE ARMY.

Congress Offers Half Pay to Every Officer and Private Who Shall Serve During the War.

In Congress 15 May 1778.

Resolved unanimously, That all military officers commissioned by congress, who now are or hereafter may be in the service of the United States, and shall continue therein during the war, and shall not hold any office of profit under these states, or any of them, shall, after the conclusion of the war, be entitled to receive annually, for the term of seven years, if they live so long, one half of the present pay of such officers. Provided, that no general officer of the cavalry, artillery, or infantry, shall be entitled to receive more than the one half part of the pay of a colonel of such corps respectively; and, provided, that this resolution shall

not extend to any officer in the service of the United States, unless he shall have taken an oath of allegiance to, and shall actually reside within some one of the united states.

Resolved unanimously,

That every non commissioned military officer and soldier, who hath enlisted, or shall enlist into the service of these states, for, and during the war, and shall continue therein to the end thereof, shall be entitled to receive the further reward of eighty dollars at the expiration of the war.

Certified a true Copy. Henry Laurens, President.

[No. 1392.]

Colonel Livingston Places the Loss of His Horse and Equipment at Three Hundred Dollars.

Fort Arnold 15th May 1778.

My good Friend, Col. Hughs informed me yesterday that you had spoke to him respecting the Horse I had lost in Fort Montgomery—and that he thought it just I should be paid for him. He desired me to procure a Certificate from you and he would pay me immediately. How to estimate the Value of him I know not. I could wish to have another in his Stead. The Horse stood me in a Twelve month ago forty Pounds. Treble that money will not purchase me so good a One at this Day. And when I take into Consideration the Saddle & Bridle both of which were plated with Silver and Cost me Eight Pounds in New York, for which I am to be paid, I know not what Price to set. The loss of my great Coat, Sword, and Pistols I shall never retrieve. Considering all things I thinck 250 Doll'rs for my Horse and 50 for the remainder will not be too much. If you should thinck 300 Dol. for the

whole too much, make such Deduction as you thinck proper and you will satisfy Your ever Affectionate Friend

Wm. S. Livingston.

P. S. I long to see you but cannot obtain permission to come up. The Works here want much alteration, and demand your Inspection, otherwise we shall be again Kidnap'd.

[The following in Governor Clinton's handwriting.] N. B. I gave Colo. Livingston a Certificate Dated 20th May 1778 of which the following is a Copy.

This is to Certify that Colo. Livingston's Riding Horse, Saddle & Bridle were by my Order detained for the public Service in Fort Montgomery and were there taken by the Enemy. There being no Horse at that Post fit for Expresses, but such as were actually imployed, rendered the Detention of Colo. Livingston's absolutely necessary.

G. Clinton B. Gen.

[No. 1393.]

SECRETARY OF STATE SCOTT STILL ILL.

Suggests Hurley as a Proper Meeting Place for the Legislature Instead of Poughkeepsie.

Hurley, May 16th 1778.

Sir, I send you inclosed the three Copies of Acts wanted. I should have sent them sooner, but had no opportunity. I beg you will let Mr. Benson see to the printing of them. In a very few days I shall have all the rest ready for the press. My Daughter when on the other Side of the River, was informed that Mr. Sharpe intended to send me out a few necessaries by the first water Flag. Should they reach me they will prove the first Instance wherein I have indulged myself. I hope, Sir, you will not think it too

great a Liberty to request your protection of them for me. I should not trouble you with this Request, but absolute necessity compels me to it.

If you have determined where the Legislature shall meet, I should be glad to know it, because in that Case I will notify, by circular Letters, the place to the joint Committee for Elections, as they are to meet only one week before the Sessions, the place where that is to be held, will be most convenient for them. The absolute want of all Necessaries at Poghkepsie and the General aversion of the Legislature to meet at that place will in my opinion render some other place more eligible. This place, beginning at the hither End of Esopus & extending to the Widow Bevier's, taking in the Houses on the other Side of the Kill will, in my opinion after the removal of the Esopus people which is now effecting every day, lodge the whole Legislature, & that now more diffusively than they must be at Poghkepsie. However I do not pretend to dictate. I was in hopes to have been there this week, but my Rheumatism will not yet permit me to go so far abroad. But I flatter myself with the prospect of visiting you next week. In the mean Time, I am Dear Sir with great Respect Your Excellency's most obedient Servant

Jno. Morin Scott.

Permit me Sir to trouble you with the inclosed to Genl. Gates.

His Excellency the Governor.

P. S. Since writing the above I have not had an opportunity of sending to you. I, therefore, now send my Deputy with this, and all the acts together with Commissions for Colonel Cantine's regim't which your Excellency will be pleased to have sealed & returned to me, and I will countersign & distribute them. Yours most respectfully

21st May 1778. Jno. Morin Scott.

His Excy. the Gov'r.

[No. 1394.]

Congress to Punish British Officers Who Abused Their Privileges After Burgoyne's Surrender.

York Town 16th May 1778.

Sir, I had the honor of writing to Your Excellency the 11th Inst.—by Messenger McKlosky.

This will cover an Act of Congress of the 15th for obtaining proofs of infractions said to have been committed on the part of the Conquered in the Convention of Saratoga & for requesting Your Excellency to take the necessary measures for ascertaining Facts, so highly Interesting to the honor & welfare of these States.

Congress have this day ordered the Treasury Board to remit to Your Excellency the Sums specifically, which are provided, by the last Resolve of the Act, for this service. I have the honor to be With very great Regard Sir, Your Excellency's Obedient humble servant

Henry Laurens, President of Congress.

His Excellency, Governor Clinton, New York.

In Congress May 15, 1778.

Congress having received information that divers infractions have been made by officers in the service of the king of great Britain upon the convention of Saratoga particularly by compelling some of the prisoners to bear arms against these United States since their return to Canada:

Resolved That his excellency governor Clinton of New York be requested to take such measures as he shall deem most prudent and effectual for ascertaining the truth of this information and to transmit to Congress the evidence, which he may obtain.

Resolved That the sum of two thousand dollars in specie, and ten thousand dollars in continental money be advanced to governor Clinton for defraying the necessary expences of executing the foregoing resolution.

Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson sec'y.

[No. 1395.]

Governor Clinton Writes Colonel Ganseroort in Regard to Ordnance and Clothing.

Poukeepsie May 17th 1778.

Sir, I have rec'd yours of the 9th Inst. I am not directed by Congress to forward any heavy Cannon to Fort Schuyler nor indeed do I know a single Piece that can possibly be spared for that Post. Very few if any of the heavy Pieces were bro't off from Ticonderoga, either owing to the neglect of the officer charged with this business or the impracticability of doing it, & on them we placed our principal dependance for supplying the Posts for the Defence of the River; Genl. Conway writes me however that he is in hopes of having them brought forward. If this should be the Case, on proper application to the command'g Officer of the Departm't, I presume part of them will be ordered to Fort Schuyler.

The State Store in the Care of Mr. Henry, is the only Place I know of from whence Cloath'g for the New York Battalions is to be procured. On the 9th of March last there were 2428 Shirts & 93 P'r Stock'gs with some very small quantities of other articles in the Store; at that Time I issued an order in favor of your Regt. for one fourth part of the whole; which nearly compleated your Return, as to the article of Shirts; since which orders have

been issued in favor of three of the other Regt. and as I have not heard of any new Supplies coming into the Store I conclude there can be little if any Cloathing on hand. However, on your making me a proper cloathing Return, which I shall expect on every application, I will issue an order on the Commissary in favor of your Regt. for its proportion of Cloathing on Hand, as I am determined to make an equal distribution among the five Regts. of this State, having a due regard to their respective numbers & former Drafts, as far as I may be able to have them ascertained. I am with great Regard Sir Your most Obed't Serv't

Colo. Gansevoort. [G. C.]

[No. 1396.]

And Private Secretary to the Governor Benson Follows with Additional Instructions.

Poukeepsie May 17th 1778.

Sir, Since his Excellency the Governor wrote his Letter of this Day to you, an officer of your Regt. waited on him with a Return of cloathing said to be wanted for your Regiment. Lest you may not fully comprehend that part of his Letter which respects Returns, he has directed me to inform you that he expects to be furnished with a Return as well of the Cloathing already drawn out of the Store as of the cloathing wanted for the Regiment; to the end that the ballance due to the Soldiery from the State may be ascertained. This measure is absolutely necessary that Justice may be done to the respective Regim'ts as some of them may have drawn more than their proportion of cloathing while others are put off with less than they are justly entitled to his Excellency does not mean to stint the Soldiers to the allowance of cloath'g ordered to be provided by the State. Yrs. &c.

Colo. Gansevoort. Robt. Benson.

Thomas Palmer Reports to Governor Clinton Regarding the Movement and Progress of the Drafts.

Sir,—The Superintendants with the Drafts from the Counties of Ulster and Orange punctually met at Goshen agreeable to appointment on Wensday the 13th Instant, and marched from thence the Same Day at 3 o'Clock in the afternoon towards Eastown, in good Order and high Spirits, Except a few which are Since Chiefly Come up and gone forward. The Same Day, 74 of the Drafts from Dutchess County and the Manor, made up of parts of the Drafts from their Differant Regiments, also went forward and on Fryday the 15th, 52 more from the Same Differant Regiments marched from New Burgh. Out of the whole that have marched, 31 have Inlisted during the war, Chiefly with Capt. Gragg of Colo. Gansevoort's Regiment and the Rem'dr in Colo. Duboises Regt. (That is): 31 Exclusive of those marched, and as near one fourth of the Drafts from Dutchess County and the manor are Still behind and those that Come, come in So Scattered a manner, I have appointed one of the Superintendants from that County to attend at New Burgh to Receive the Drafts as they Come in. Capt. Boarum, another of the Superintendants from that County, I have Sent with full power to Collect the Drafts from the Different Regim'ts and after all, I am doubtfull wheather he will be able to Collect the half of what is now Deficient; for it Seems they have been under the necessaty of Drafting Some, and others who have Inlisted and taken the Bounty are Deserted; 3 is already deserted that I am Informed of and have advertised them accordingly. I fear Some of the Superintendants of Dutchess did not well understand, or Otherwise have been too Neglectfull of their Duty; which may in Some Measure be the Means of their coming up in So Confused a manner. Not a

Single Draft has yet arrived from Albany; nor have I received any accounts from Mr. Glen or Either of the Superintendants from that County; and as the winds have been favourable the Chief of the week past, and Still Remain So, I am Doubtfull wheather there is not Some Obstructions in their way more than I Can account for. I Therefore thought it my Duty to Inform your Excellency of that, as well as of the Circumstances above mentioned. The Bearer I have Ingaged to go forward to Albany in Case you may be of Opinion it is necessary. I have Omitted writing any thing To Mr. Glen on my own part. Leave that to your Excellency; in Case you think it necessary to Order the Express forward as a line from you in Case of any Difficulty will no doubt be received with Greater attention as Coming from the proper Authority.

Another Circumstance I beg leave to mention, and that is, I am Informed that Colo. Vanderbergh's Son Inlisted for one of the Classes of his Regiment, and took a Bounty of Upwards of 100£; that Soon after it appeared he had an appointment for an Ensign in one of the Companies of Colo. Duboises Regiment. Wheather he knew of the appointment when he took the Bounty I am not Certain; however wheather he did or not, I Conceive he ought to return the money to the Class or hire another man. But the Single point with me is, wheather if he met with the appointment after he took the money, (if he has not Honor Enough to return it) he can or ought to be Obliged to do it. Your Excellency's Opinion on this, by a line to me or Colo. Vanderbergh would no Doubt be a means of Reducing young Vanderbergh to a proper Sense of his Duty. I am with all Due respect Your Excellency's Most Obedient and most humble Servant to Command

Dated at New Burgh, 17th May 1778. Thos. Palmer.

His Excellency George Clinton Esquire &c. &c.

Captain Nicoll Denies he Recommended Gershom Halstead for Exemption.

New Windsor May th 17 1778.

D'r Govvenor, I Received Your Excellency's Letter of the Sixtenth by Gersham Halstead, one of the Drafts oute of the New Windsor Company, by which I am Informed he has made application for to be Exempted from Said Draft by my advice. Mr. Halstead Dose me a Great Deale of Injustice, for I have Not Sean the man for a fortnite before This morning when he brought your Excellency's Letter to my house. I have Called on my Brother Who Informs me, Mr. Halsted was at his house yesterday morning at the time he Should have met the other Drafts to march, When he Said he Came to Let my Brother know That you wass att Fishkill & would Clear him on account of his Eye, for that you had Cleared one Ransom, at New Molborough on account of having his arm once Broke, tho is able for Business as Ever, my Brother Saise his answor was, if the Governor Cleared him he Should produce Such Certificate, when Halsted went away & Said he would Go and Get one, Several Gentlemen being present; your Excellency Knows better then to think I would Triffle In the Duty of my office which I have Never don & Defy any man that Can Say I Ever favoured my Self but Chearfully Every alarm marched with the Company. To Give your Excellency Trouble I Never did or ment To do. Tho these men in the Works have Repeatedly Done So, always Bosting that the Governor would Clear them from Millitary Duty, or they would Leave the works. My Brothe Never Did Call Halstead to Do Millitary Duty, tho an abel Bodied man, Till Complaned of to the Cornil of this Redgment Two years

almost a Gone, when by the Cornil's orders he wass oblidged To put him in his List. This I am Knowing to as well as many Officers In this Redgment. My Duty as an officer I mean a Greable To Law to Do, and am D'r Governor Your Excellency's Most Obedient Humble Serv't

[To G. C.] Leonard D. Nicoll.

[No. 1399.]

Ebenezer Clark Brings a Serious Accusation Against Colonel Williams.

New Perth May 18th 1778.

D'r Sir, I wrote Your Excellency Twice respecting the refusal of our Civil officers & hoped to receive an answer but have not as Yet.

I Promise my Self Your Excellency's Pardon for being So Solicitouse on this head, when by the Bearer Mr. Rowan You will be Inform'd of the distracted State of the County, Particularly an Illegal & unpresidented method taken by Col. Williams for Extorting money from the Subjects Under the Pretended authority of a Court martial; but as Mr. Webster has wrote You on the Subject & as Mr. Rowan Can Inform You, being a Man of Veracity & Integrity, I decline- only Permit me to beg Your Interposision as the People are much discouraged; & the line of Conduct now Pursued, Seems more Effectual for Strengthening the Enemy by Disafecting the People than any Secrecy With all his art & Zeal Could Possably do.

a time the People wait with longing Expectations for an to their Petition & wishing Your Excellency all Possability I rest at Command. D'r Sir Your most obt. & very b'e Serv't Eben'r Clark.

Excellency Governor Clinton.

To his excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State of New York, Captain General and Commander in chief over the Militia thereof and vice Admiral of the same.

The Petition of James Hart now a Prisoner in Albany Goal. Most humbly sheweth. That your Petitioner having been born in this State, and educated with those generous Sentiments which constitute the real Friend to the Rights of Mankind, He embraced the earliest Oppertunity of drawing his Sword in defence of his greatly injured Country, was appointed a Lieutenant in a Rhode-Island Regiment, commanded by Colonel Varner, and with his utmost Power opposed the Enemy when they landed on Long-Island.

That your Petitioner then had his Wife and Family in New York whom He removed from the power of the Enemy there, to Pitts-Town in the County of Albany, where He laid out his all in the purchase and improvement of a Tract of Land, and soon after He became an Inhabitant there, was chosen Captain of a Company of Militia in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Knickerbacker, with which Company & Regiment your Petitioner proceeded to Fort George to oppose the Enemy then expected from the Northward.

That the sudden and unexpected evacuation of the Garrison of Ticonderoga enabled the Enemy to make so rapid a Progress to the southward that their Savages committed several Outrages in the Neighbourhood of your Petitioner 'ere He could possibly remove his Family and Effects, which constrained your Petitioner for the first time to hearken to the Advice of several Per-

sons to avail Himself of the Advantage & benefit of the Protection so freely offered by General Burgoyne—that with that View your Petitioner went to Burgoyne's Camp; but judging from their embarrassed Situation that He could scarcely protect his own Army, much less the Inhabitants, your Petitioner applied for a Pass to General Fraser to return Home—that when your Petitioner made that Application, General Fraser represented the Danger of his being intercepted and perhaps massacred by some of the several Parties of Savages then in the Woods, to prevent which he proposed to send some of them from the Camp as an Escorte to your Petitioner—but not chosing to go Home among the Inhabitants in such Company, your Petitioner obtained permission for a white Man who had some command among the Indians to accompany Him and preserve Him from danger and insult—that this Fellow contrary to every Argument your Petitioner could make use of forceably took a Horse from a young Lad, Son to one of the Neighbours, made the Lad his Prisoner and took both to Burgoyne's Camp.

That the absolute want of some Necessaries for Himself and his Family which were plenty in the Enemy's Camp induced your Petitioner to return there with some hard money, bought what Things he wanted and returned Home, where He hoped to live in Peace without interruption; But having Reason very soon, to apprehend Trouble from the Malice of some of his Neighbours, Members of the Committee, your Petitioner threw himself into the Arms and Protection of his Colonel, Mr. Knickerbacker, Who advised your Petitioner to go to the Committee of this City, and sent his Son with your Petitioner, to declare the part He had acted—that your Petitioner accordingly came to this City related to the Chairman what is herein set forth,

d was not laid under any Restraint, 'till the malice before ·ntioned reached Him even here, when your Petitioner was t into Close Prison; that what has been your Petitioner's mis-rtune is now imputed to Him as his fault, by being charged ıd convicted as Accessory to the taking the Boy, and Horse, hich your Petitioner has proven before the Court He endeav-ıred to prevent.

That your Petitioner has been convicted on the Testimony of single Evidence, entering into his Sixteenth Year whose in-·edibility was evident by his own Confession in Court of his equent deviation from the Truth.

That your Petitioner thinks it very hard his Life or that of ny other Person should be sacraficed on so flimsey an Evidence, On that Justice, Mercy and Humanity with which your Ex-·llencies Breast is replete and for which you are conspicuous, ›th your Petitioner entirely rely for his preservation. May it, ıerefore, please your Excellency to take into your humane Con-deration, your Petitioner's Case and to grant Him a Pardon · such other Relief as your Excellency may judge right and st, and your Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray.

James Hartt.

bany 18 May 1778.

I do hereby certify that the above Petitioner James Hart did liver himself up to me and that he was committed to Prison.

John Barclay Mayor.

To his excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State New York, Captain General & Commander in chief over the ilitia thereof, & vice Admiral of the same, &c.

We whose Names are hereunto subscribed, being Inhabitants the City and County of Albany having perused the within writ

ten Petition of James Hart, and give Credit to the Matters therein set forth, do most humbly pray that your Excellency will take his distressed Case into your tender Consideration and grant him a Pardon.

City of Albany ss: Sarah the Wife of Robert Smith of Pitts-Town, the County of Albany, being sworn on the holy Evangelist of Almighty God deposeth and saith that She was served with a Subpoena about a Week ago to attend the Trial of James Hart as a Witness, that the Deponant was sick and not able to attend the said Trial, that some time before the Surrender of General Burgoyne, the said Hart boarded with his Wife at this Deponant's and that She very well remembers that it happened in the Night, when the said Hart was in Bed with his Wife that two or three Persons came to the House (among whom She thinks there was one Manuel Edwards) Who knocked to the Door, and called to James Hart, asked Him whether He would go along to fetch De Reemer's Horse, that the said James Hart made answer no; I will not, if you want the Horse you may go yourself, I will have no Hand in stealing horses, and that Hart did not get up; that early on the next morning, She saw two sorrel Horses tyed to the Fence near the House, and that She understood they had belonged to one Mr. Brewer, that a certain Person called Captain Lyons in an Indian Habit came to the House at the same time with a young lad named Frederick De Reemer, Jun'r, and this Deponant saw the said Lyons, & De Reemer with one of the horses go off the same Morning with the said two sorrel Horses, and that this Deponant afterwards saw the said James Hart go from her House to a roan Mare which he had bought from Manuel Edwards in her

this Deponant further says that She has heard the

said Frederick De Reemer, Jun'r, say, that Captain Lyons had made him Prisoner, and took him from the Horse by the Arm, and that this Deponant has heard the said De Reemer say, that if Lyons could have been got He never would have taken the pains to prosecute James Hart, but since Lyons could not be got, Hart should suffer in his Stead, and further saith not.

her
Sarah X Smith
mark

Sworn the 20th Day of May 1778
before me
J. Roorbach Alderman.

These are to Certifie, To all persons Before whom these Shall Come, That the within mentioned Sarah Smith is a person of good Credit has, in the Neighbourhoods where She has Lived, Behaved herself well. Her word may Be taken for truth att any Time, which wee the Subscribers Can Declare.

Nathanel Wallaes, William Hicks, Abner Van Name, Mary Van Name, Mary Van Name, Elizabeth Van Name, Cornelius Humfrey Colo'l, David Sutherland Col.

[No. 1401.]

The American Commissioners in Paris Send Notice that Eleven British Men-of-War Are Bound for America.

Paris, May 18th, 1778.

Gentlemen, Certain intelligence having been received that eleven British Ships of War, (viz one of 90 Guns, nine of 74 and one of 64 Guns) are in the Road of St. Hellens near Portsmouth, bound for North America, & the United States being in alliance

with France, You are requested as speedily as possible to Convey this information to the Commanders of any French Fleet or Ships of War in America, by sending them this Letter, and also to publish the Contents of it in all the Continental News Papers.*

We have the Honor to be Gentlemen Your most Obedient Humb'e Serv'ts

B. Franklin,

John Adams.

A true Copy Attest

John Avery, D'y Sec'y for the State of Massachusetts Bay.

[No. 1402.]

A Venerable Man Accused of Horse-stealing—His Petition.

To his excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State of New York, Commander in chief of the Militia thereof and vice Admiral of the same.

The Petition of William Rogers of the District of Hosick in the County of Albany Yeoman, and other Subscribers in his Behalf humbly sheweth,

That the Petitioner is entering into the Seventyeth Year of his Age, and has been lately convicted for having feloniously taken and led away Horses, the Petitioner does not deny that He took the Horses, but that He did not take them clandestinely or with an Intent to convert them to his own Use, and that the Petitioner was compelled and obliged to go and demand the said Horses from the Owners by Threats and Fear of some of the Officers of General Burgoyne's Army, Who came to the Petitioner's House

* According to the weekly account of his Majesty's ships and vessels employed in North America, from the last returns from Lord Howe, prepared in pursuance of a precept of the House of Commons, dated 27th January, 1778, it was shown that Great Britain had sent 82 ships to America, with a complement of 15,980 men; with 11,460 seamen mustered, and 2,382 marines mustered.—STATE HISTORIAN.

the Night, after their Defeat at Benington; that the Petitioner has lost all that he had in the World (that He has long been an Inhabitant of the City of Albany,) and a large Family to support d titute of every Necessary of Life. The Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that your Excellency will take the Prisoners advanced Age and other distressed Circumstances into your tender and serious Consideration & earnestly beg that He may become an Object of Mercy and Obtain your Excellencies Pardon.

William Rogers.

Albany 18 May 1778.

David Schuyler, Garret Roseboom, Thomas Hun, Nanning Harmense Visscher, Bastiaen Visscher, John Cluet, Jun'r, B. Visscher, Joh's Beeckman, W. Mancius, John H. Ten Eyck, Barent Ten Eyck, Miegel Henry, Adam Hardell, John Spoon, Barent Staats, Joseph Hall, Peter Quackenboss, Peter Quackenbos, Jr., Coenraed Scharp, Eli Arnold, Wouter Knicker Backer, Walter Quackenbos, Jun., Peter Gansevort, Isaac Deforeest, Corn's Van Schelluyne, Henry Beasley, Balshazer Lyons, James Sharpe, Henry Van Dyck, Hendrick Van nes, Johanes Pruin, Isaac I. Truax, Corn's Glen, Jacob Cuyler, Francis Nicoll, Dirck Roseboom, Dirick B. Van Schoonhoven, Henry Van Schoonhoven.

To his excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the State of New York, Commander in chief of the Militia thereof, vice Admiral of the same.

The Petition of Mary Rogers, the Wife of William Rogers, of the District of Hosick in the County of Albany, Yeoman, Mary Fairbanks, and other Subscribers in behalf of the said William Rogers.

humbly sheweth, That the said William Rogers, (entering into the seventyeth Year of his Age) is confined in the Goal of the City of Albany, and convicted for having forceably taken away four Horses the property of Jonathan Morrel, John Morrel, William Shaff and Henry Shaff all of the District and County aforesaid,—that the Prisoner in the Course of his Trial proved that He was in a manner compelled to demand the said Horses from the Owners, through Threatnings of some Officers of General Burgoyne's Army, who came to his House in the Night, and insisted upon the Prisoners procuring them Horses, to facilitate their Flight after the Defeat at Benington,—that the Owners of the said Horses who appeared as Witnesses against the Prisoner on his Trial, did confess that He had given a Reciept or Order to some of the Owners for the said Horses when He took them, and that all the Horses were returned to them, (by the Person who was with the Prisoner and carried them off) within two or three Days after He took them away—and the Prisoner did also prove on his Trial that Money was given to the Person who went to return the Horses aforesaid, to pay the Owners for the Use or hire of them—from which Premisses your Petitioners are induced to believe, that tho' the Prisoner may have used Threatning Language to obtain the Horses from the Owners, that yet the Prisoner had no Intention to divest the Proprietors thereof, entire & convert them to his own Use or benefit.

Your Petitioners do therefore judge the Prisoner to be an Object of Mercy, and as such humbly beg leave to recommend Him to your Excellencies Clemency for a Pardon.

Albany 15th May 1778.

Robert Freeman Agrees to Deliver Flour at Salisbury Furnace for the Use of the Workmen.

State of Connecticut Salisbury 18th May 1778.

This May Certify that Mr. Robert Freeman has Engaged to deliver Seven Tuns Weight of Flour for Supplying The Workmen Employed in the Business of the Cannon Foundary here.

attest Wm. Whiting, Manager of said Foundry.

To all Whom it may Concern.

[No. 1404.]

Captain Barns Accuses Colonel Williams of Oppressing the Friends of America.

New Perth May 19th 1778.

Sir, I wrote your Excellency Some Days ago the State of my Company. I have ben the other day at Albany and General Conway ordered me to go to Skeensborrow and Scout to Ticonderoga &c. and Give him the Earliest Notice if any danger was in that Quarter wherfore, my head quarters will be at that place or fort Ann unless otherways ordred by your Excellency. I am Sorry to Inform your Excellency the New Schene of Trouble that is arisen up among us, which if not Stopt will rewn our Settelment; the New England people Ever Since the first Settelment here hath been opposed to the old, and Last year hath Given them an advantage over many poor weak timed Cretures who was distrest to the Last degree and fleed in to the rear of Burgoyn's Camp for Safty intairily out of fear of the Indians, barbariously murdering and massacreaing many and threatning to do So to all that would move Southward &c., and Now, Collo. Williams, is fining at his will and pleasure from 4s to 30£ and most of them hath

lived pecably on their farms and been ready to assist when Ever Called upon in Evry allarm and as good frinds for Liberty as any on the Continent. Crims for remaining at home on their farms—altho they have never Supplid the Enemy in any way or manner. I was mostly among them all the time a Scouting and they gave us Intilligence and provisions at the risque of their Lives. I have Spoken to Collo. Williams at Diffrent times not to fine the poor people that was too much distrest already; this he did without Ever Calling them before him or Giving them any Notice to Speak in their own defence, which in my opinion is Contra to all rule & order. The Bearer Mr. John Rowan Can Give your Excellency an Exact Account of Evry particular. Neither Collo. Webster nor me was warned or knew any thing of the Court Martial, till it was over and I Can account for this in No other way than this, (for fear of doing the people Justice); it Sems the Collo. has it in Vew to ruin the Settelment; if he is not Immedetly Stopt he will Dissafect more people then In this County then Burgoyn and all his Agents. This is a short rehersal of facts. I Make no dobt but your Excellency in your wisdom Will Give relief in the premises. I am D'r Governor your Exellency's Very Obident and Humble Serv't

John Barns.

[To Governor George Clinton.]

[No. 1405.]

Alexander Webster Also Accuses Colonel Williams.

Black Creek May 19th 1778.

D'r Governor, The Acts was So long Delayed that we have had no Election; within a few Days after I Came home we was alarmed and all Turned out to oppose our Enemies but we was

ppely disapointed. No Enemy appearing we all returned me, and no real trouble Since, but what is among our selves; my arrival here the Committe had ordred a number of poor luded Creatures off their farms down the Country for this rea-n, because they wear at Burgoyn's Camp, but it is pretty Evi-nt; from other Circumstances that they reather wanted what ey had, (then from real Zeal); How Ever they had got So high 'e did not Chuse to Enterpose at that Instant with those they id Ordred of at that time, but Immeadetly formed a board of ommissioners, and then the Committees dropt and Indeed We id more Difficulty with the whigs then the Tories. We was last eek Up at what we Call Kingsbury near Lake George and had reat Success. We had between 40 & 50 persons before us, that ive Mostly taken the Oath of allegance to the State and a imber of them that is boands and Sue writs for good behaviour id appearing when Call upon; the whigs Sent us word before e went up that if the Tories was not taken from among them ey would move of, but we was so hard on them and told them at if they were Impartely tried they would hang and any we was r Committing. The whigs Came bound for them. Collo. Wil-ims I am told is fining a great many of our poor Distrest In-bitants for Diffrent reasons, Some for not appearing at Wil-ms Town in New England, and Some for Going home without ive to Visit their poor distrest families; how Ever this I have report, for I was not Invited to the Court Martial; but I have many Complaints made to me, but am Unable to releive them l I here they are Going to petition your Excellency for redress the Grivance. I am afraid if your Excellency dos not Enter-e we Shall have bad work. I can acco'tt for the proceedure no other way then this, that he is taking the New England's

peoples part, who are Determined to root out the old Country people if they Can; how Ever the bearer Can Give your Excellency a more acurate account then I, as I have been much hurried and mostly taken up In Making peace in our frontiers. When I Came home we Expected Evry day to be attacted by our Enemies from the Noret; & Collo. Williams Said if he was Superseeded by being Made third Judge he would Leakways Give up his Commission as Collo. I thought it might do hurt in So Great Confusion to Do any thing that might hurt our present Exertions in opposing our Enemies. I told him not to be Uneasie, for we ought to be agreable in opposing our foes and not to be Quarreling about places, for I Should not Accept, & indeed in my humble opinion in our present Situation our Courts Could not be of much use to us, and as I have not accepted non of the Justices has Qualifyed. I Shall be much oblidged to your Excellency for your advice. I am your Excellency's Very obident and Humble Servant

Alex'r Webster.

To his Excellency George Clinton

Governor of the State of New York.

[No. 1406.]

The Albany Authorities Protest Against the Removal of the Troops from That City and Give Their Reasons.

Albany 20th May 1778.

Sir, The Mayor Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany being convened in Common Council in Consequence of your Honour's Letter to Genl. Ten Broeck of this Date, informing him that the Troops are ordered from here to Fish Kill and requesting him to relieve the Guards in this City.

The Common Council beg leave to observe that they consider themselves in duty bound to inform you, that, from the weakness of the Militia of this City (owing to the Number in the public service) it will not be safe to Leave the Stores, Provisions, Hospitals, Sloops, Vessels Regular and other Prisoners, the latter amounting to at least one hundred, besides the disaffected, in and about the City to so small a number as 150 Men, being the whole number of Militia that are subject to Military Duty—for should an accident happen by means of the disaffected, either in destroying the Stores or in discharging the Prisoners (ten whereof are now under Sentence of Death) it would not only distress this City but the service of the Continent in General.

The Common Council farther beg leave to observe, that about Six weeks ago the Troops were also ordered down, but upon the Committees representing to the Hon'ble Major Genl. Conway, the above matters, and the necessity of having a Body of Troops in this City, to Succour the Northern and Western Frontiers in Case of an attack, the General Wrote upon the Subject to Major General McDougall and his Excellency the Governor, who thereupon ordered the Troops to remain here.

The Common Council farther beg leave to observe that in Case your Honour cannot detain one of the Regiments stationed here that at least 150 Men ought to be detained and they doubt not but your Honour will concur with them in opinion.

The Bearors, Mr. Recorder and Alderman Cuyler, Members of this Board can inform your Honour of many other reasons for the detention of part of the Troops. I am &c. By order of Common Council

John Barclay, Mayor.

Brigadier Genl .Stark.

[No. 1407.]

Benjamin Rogers Accused of Horse Stealing, Files a Petition with Governor Clinton.

To his excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the State of New York, Captain General and Commander in chief of the Militia thereof, & Admiral of the Navy &c.

The Petition of Benjamin Rogers a Prisoner in Albany Goal, and others the Subscribers in his Behalf. most humbly shews, That the Petitioner is only Seventeen Years of Age, has languished for six Months in a loathsome Prison, and is now under sentence of Death for stealing a Horse—there are however Circumstances which He humbly hopes will entitle Him to mercy and which He trusts your Excellency will extend to him in Consideration of his Youth, and the Intreaties of those benevolent Members of Society who have joined Him in this Prayer for his Pardon, and your Petitioner as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

Ab'm Yates, Jun., Ab'm Ten Broeck, Ab'm A. Lansingh, Jno. R. Bleecker, R't Bleecker, John N. Bleecker, Henry Bleecker, John J. Bleecker, John Cuyler, Jacob Cuyler, Rich'd Varick, Cornel's Cuyler, Bangaman Rogers, John Barclay, Ph: Schuyler, Harme Gansevoort, John Ten Broeck, Thomas Hun, Leon'd Gansevoort, Jun'r., Jacob Jno. Lansingh, Abr'm Bloodgood, John Tayler, Isaac I. Truax, Jacob Cuyler, Dirick B. Van Schoonhoven, Henry Van Schoonhoven, Nanning Harmense Visscher, Zacharies Sickels, Harm's Wendell, Rynier Van Yeveren, Bastiaen Visscher, Abram Bogert, Nicholas Marselis, Jno. Jacs Beeckman, John Roseboom, Jur., Jacob Jac'b Lansingh, Abr'm Cuyler, Richard Lush, Dirck Schuyler, Jun'r., Gysbert Fonda, Abraham Veeder, John J. Hanson, Elbert Willett, E. Westerlo, Peter Gansevort, Conrad Gansevort, Corn's Glen, W. Mancius, Garret Roseboom, Joh's Beeckman, Dirck Roseboom, Walter Quackinboss, Jun'r.

Albany 20th May 1778.

o his excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the State of New York; Captain General & Commander in chief over the Militia thereof, and vice Admiral of the same.

The Petition of Benjamin Rogers a Prisoner in Albany Goal, & others in his behalf, most humbly sheweth. That your Petitioner is only seventeen years of Age, has languished for six months in a loathsome Prison, and is now under Sentence of Death, for having been found guilty of the stealing of a Horse; there are however circumstances which he humbly hopes will Intitle him to mercy, and which he trusts your Excellency will Extend to him in consideration of his youth and the Intreaty of those Benevolent members of Society who have Joind him In this prayer for his pardon.

Your Petitioner now looks up to your Excellency for Pity and Compassion not doubting but that his tender years and inexperience will have its due weight within your Excellencies humane Breast and plead for Mercy in his Behalf and your Petitioner as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c.

Bangaman Rogers.

Albany 20th May 1778.

[No. 1408.]

The Albany Authorities Notify Governor Clinton of the Letter Written to General Stark.

Albany 20th May 1778.

Sir, The Corporation were last night informed by Genl. Ten Brock that the Troops now Stationd in this city were ordered down to Fish Kill and that he was called upon to furnish a Sufficient number of men to relieve the guards.

The Corporation thereupon wrote to Genl. Stark requesting him to detain one of the regiments a Copy of which they do themselves the Honour to Enclose.

They have this morning wrote upon the Subject to Genl. Gates a Copy of which letter your Excellency will also find Enclosed and Directed me to Desire your Ex'y to Second their application. I am with Great respect your most obedient Humble S't

John Barclay, Mayor.

P. S. if the British Prisoners Could be moved to an other place it would break up the Connection which is now apprehended is kept up between them, the Tories and Negroes.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 1409.]

General Ten Broeck Reports General Stark's Orders to Governor Clinton and Asks for Advice.

Albany, 21st May 1778.

Sir, The Inclosed is Copy of a letter I Rec'd yestarday in the afternoon from General Stark. On Communicating the same to the mayor, Aldermen & Commonalty they Judged it proper to write General Stark a letter of which they Inform me they send your Excellency a Copy P'r this Express. I waited on General Stark on the Subject matter of his letter & Represented things to him much in the same way as Stated in the letter of the Corporation—he told me he did not Expect the Citizens only to do the Duty he Requested but that he Expected it from my whole Brigade, I answered it would be Exceeding Distressing to the People to be called from their farming Business at this Season, for Reasons very obvious & also very alarming to leave their Families & Effects at a time when Robbery's by Parties of armed men are so Frequent. After Considerable Conversation the Gen-

od Enough to say he would detain one of the Regi-

s in Town & send an Express to Fish Kills to General Gates, esent the matter to him & wait his farther Order.

hought it my Duty to acquaint your Excellency of this & at ıme time mention a doubt arising in my own mind, whether authorized by Law, to Order the whole or part of the Brigade : my Command to do the Duty Required of them by General :. I have not mentioned my Doubts to the General & would Complied with his Request had all the Troops marched, I be much Obliged to your Excellency for Direction herein & ıin with great Esteem Your Excellency's most Obedient & ble Servant

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

:xcellency George Clinton Esqr.

Albany 20th May 1778.

, The Troops at this Post being Ordered to Fish Kill I am ' necessity to Call on you for a Sufficient number of men to ;e the Guards in the City; am Sir Your affectionate Very ›le Servant

John Stark, B. G.

ıe hon'ble Genl. Ten Brooks.

[No. 1410.]

ıyor Barclay Presents the Case Forcibly to General Gates.

Albany 21st May 1778.

ı'd Sir, The Mayor Aldermen and Commonalty of this City ast night convened in Common Council in Consequence of a · from Brigadier General Stark to General Ten Broeck, inting him that the Troops in this City were ordered to Fish and requested him to order a sufficient number of Men to

relieve him the Guards. The Common Council, thereupon, wrote a Letter to General Stark representing to him the necessity of having a Body of Troops in this City, which Letter the General intends to enclose you P'r express, and to which the Common Council beg leave to refer you as part of the reasons why the Troops should be detained here.

The Common Council would also beg leave to observe, that the many Robberies and Murders daily committed on the Inhabitants of this County by deserters and Prisoners from Burgoyne's army and the disaffected, who are drove to desperation, renders it indispensibly necessary to have a Body of Troops here to go in quest of the Villains, for unless the Militia can remain at home this Year and properly manage their Summer Crops, little or no support of Flour can the Continent derive from this part. Last Year more than one half destroyed and not more than half the usual Quantity sowed.

These reasons together with those already assigned in the Letter to General Stark induce the Common Council to suppose that you will on the Receipt hereof order at Least one of the Regiments to remain here. I am &c. By order of the Common Council.

John Barclay, Mayor.

Hon'ble Genl. Gates.

[No. 1411.]

Governor Clinton Receives Receipts for Lottery Tickets Unsold.

Treasury Office May 21t 1778.

Sir, Your Excellency's Letter of the 1st Instant accompanied with the United States Lottery Tickets remaining on Hand the [illegible] duly came to this Office; and I have the Honor to [illegible] from the Treasurer for the same. I have the

Honor to be with the greatest Respect Your Excellency's Most obed. and very hble. Serv.

John Gibson U. S. Aud. Genl.

His Excellency Gov. Clinton.

Received York Town May 21, 1778 of the Hon'ble the Treasury Board, Three Thousand two hundred and Nine Lottery Tickets, agreeable to lists lodged with the said Board, the one signed by Dirck Ten Broeck for Two thousand three hundred & thirty five Tickets, the other being for eight hundred & seventy four tickets returned by John Pierce, jun'r, both parcels having been transmitted to the said Board by his Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of New York—And for which I signed Receipts of this day on the said Lists. Rec'd in behalf of the United States of America. M'l Hillegas, Tr.

An Account of the Numbers of United States Lottery Tickets transmitted to his Excellency the Governor of the State of New York the 28 Day of April 1778.

One Packet No. 74 signed by Owen Biddle put up by Sharp Delany Numb'd from 65m701 to 66m600 Remaining still sealed & unsold	900
One Do. No. 55 signed and put up by Sharp Delany from No 48m601 to 49m500 Remaining Still sealed and unsold	900
One Packet opened & Remains unsold Containing fifteen Sheets 9 Tickets each from No. 46m576 to 46m710 both Numbers Included	135
Ten Sheets Containing 9 Tickets each from No. 48m331 to 48m420 both Numbers Included	90
Eight Sheets Containing 9 Tickets each from No. 46m360 to 46m431 both Numbers Included	72
Nine Sheets Cont'g 9 Tickets each from No. 46m441 to 46m521 both Numbers Included	81

Four Sheets Cont'g 9 Tickets each from No. 48m565 to 48m600 both Numbers Included	36
One sheet Cont'g 9 Tickets from No. 48m547 to 48m555 both Numbers Included	9
One Do Cont'g 7 Tickets from No. 46m434 to 46m440 both Numbers Included	7
Single Tickets 1 Do No. 46m296	
1 Do Do 46m286	
1 Do Do 46m276	
1 Do No 46m718	4
One sheet Cont'g 8 Tickets from No. 48m296 to 48m303 both Number Included	8
Five sheets Containing 45 Tickets from No. 48m466 to 48m510 both Numbers Included	45
One sheet Cont'g 6 Tickets from No. 48m460 to 48m465 Both Numbers Included	6
One Do Cont'g 7 Tickets from No. 47m737 to 47m743 both Numbers Included	7
One Do Cont'g six Tickets from No. 47m713 to 47m718 both Numbers Included	6
One Do Cont'g 4 Tickets from No. 47m733 to 47m736 both Numbers Included	4
One sheet of three Tickets from No. 47m701 to 47m703 both Numbers Included	3
4 Tickets from No. 73m356 to 73m359, 4 Tick's	
5 Do from No. 73m364 to 73m368, 5 Do	
4 Do from No. 73m378 to 73m381, 4 Do	
4 Do from No. 73m374 to 73m377, 4 Do	
3 Do from No. 73m391 to 73m393, 3 Do	
2 Do from No. 73m397 to 73m398, 2 Do	
22	22
2335 Tick's	

Albany ye 28th April 1778.

Dirck Ten Broeck.

I do hereby certify that the aforegoing is a true Copy of the Account of the United States Lottery Tickets remaining unsold in the possession of Dirck Ten Broeck Esqr. and by him transmitted to me to be forwarded to the Treasury Board of the said United States. Given at Poukeepsie this first May 1778.

Geo. Clinton.

Return of Ticketts of the first Class of the United States Lottery remaining on Hand with John Pierce Jun. this 27th April 1778.

From No.	55,297	to 55,593	inclusive	being	297	Ticketts
do	56,747	to 55,755	do	do	9	
do	55,757	to 55,763	do	do	7	
do	55,783	to 55,800	do	do	18	
do	57,691	to 58,185	do	do	495	
do	58,321	to 58,368	do	do	48	
					874	Ticketts

Poukeepsie April 30th 1778.

Recev'd of John Pierce Jun. eight hundred and seventy four Ticketts of the first Class of the United States Lottery Numbered as above and signed by S. Delany—which I am to transmit to the Board of Treasury agreeable to the Resolution of Congress—having signed Quadruplicate Receipts therefor.

Geo. Clinton.

[No. 1412.]

Captain Barnes Reports that he has Captured Oliver De Lancey, and Asks Advice as to Treatment of Women Who Supply the Enemy with Information.

Harrisons Precinct May 22d 1778.

May it please your Honour, Sir, that on the 20th Instant, a Detachment under my Command, Proceeded to W't Chester at Wilkts-point at a House now Occupied by one Mr. Oliver Delancey, a

person whome Coll. Miggs Had Orders from his Honour General Persons to make a prisoner, (as I was informed), Which Coll. Miggs sent of a Detachment in order to take S'd Delancey but was disappointed by reason that Mr. Delancey was absent from his Native place of above, Therfore on the 20th of this Instant he happily fell into my hands which I have the Pleasure to Convey by Lieut. Wattles to your Honour, but as for the Character of S'd Mr. Delancey undoubtedly General Persons will acquait your Honour with

Therefore I have the pleasur to Subscribe myself your Honour's most obedient and humble Servant

Thomas Barnes, Capt.

N. B. Sir, their is a Disadvantage that I Labour under by reason the Lines are very Extencive and their is a Number of Women keeps up a Correspondence by the way of Trade and Information within the Enemies Lines. Therefore I should be Infinitely glad to have some orders by Lieut. Wattles, from your honour how to deal with those persons when they fall into my hands.

[To Governor George Clinton.]

[No. 1413-1414.]

Six Apprehended Tories Crave Pardon.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor And Captain General of the state of N. York And Vice Admiral of the Navy of the same.

The humble petition of Daniel Shaver and Charles Miller most humbly sheweth, That your poor petitioners hitherto shewed their fidelity & loyalty to the United American States, being Americans by nativity and willing to serve their Country as good & loyal soldiers ought to do, the were Engnaged in the Continential service by Colonel Gansevoort before their trials, but were obliged to

ıtand trial; And were Condemned, the judge of the Court told :hem, they might petition your Excellency for reprief, and have to & with the advice of the Good Citizens of Albany &c. taken this nethod whereby we hope your Excellencies well known wisdom nd humanity

May pardon this their first and only affence & restore their ves if agreeable to the divine will of God and, therefore, give hem an Opportunity to shew before God & the world thier Innoency relitive to any plotts or Conspiracy in any manner Conserted gainst the states, this, their present misfortune, being Entirely)wing to the Evil Council of the disaffected party, which they hall ever after be sufficiently guarded against in Every part of :heir Conduct, and as the supreme being of all Events is a forgiving God, your poor petitioners hopes your Clemincy will receive them as lost sheep gone a stray from the right fold,

And may the God of peace in whose hands are all Events be vour Excellencies reward which as in duty bound shall ever be he prayer of your Humble & penitent Petitioners.

Daniel Shaver &
Charles Miller } Petitioners

y Hall Albany May 22d 1778.

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o his Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor and Captain ıeral of the state of New York and Vice admiral of the Navy the Same. The Petition of the Subscribers Most Humbly weth That your Poor Petitioners hitherto have shewed their endship and Loyalty to the United American States by Standg their Drafts and paying their money, being Americans by tivity and willing to serve their Country as good and Loyal Subcts and are willing to Enter into the Service Immediately if it ight please your Excellency; after they Received their sentance e Judge was pleased to tell them that they might Petition your xcellency for a Reprief, and they have with advice of the good ople of the City of Albany &c., taken this Method to approach ur Excellency's well Known wisdom and humanity, in hope

that it may pardon this, their first offence, and Restore their Lives if it be agreeable to the devine will of God; therefore to give them an opportunity of shewing God and the world their Innocency Relitive to any plotts or Conspiracies, in any manner Concerted against the States, this their present misfortune being Entirely owing to the evil Council of the Disaffected party, which they shall ever after be sufficiently guarded against in every part of their Conduct, and as the supreme being of all Events is a forgiving God, your poor Petitioners hopes your Clemency will Receive them as Lost Sheep gone astray from the right fold.

And may the God of peace in whose hands are all events be your Excellencies reward, which as in duty bound shall ever be the prayer of your humble and penitent Petitioners.

David Dick, James his X mark Essmond, Robert his X mark Forguson, Christopher his X mark Galer, Petitioners.

Albany City Hall 22d May 1778.

[No. 1415.]

A Matter of Illegal Balloting for a Draft Which Involves Lieutenant Cole.

Goshen May 22: 1778.

On complaint of Thom's Oakley concerning the Illegality & Injustice of a Ballot made by a Class to which his Son Thomas Belongs [illegible] appeared on a full fair and impartial Hearing that the Ballot was Illegal in that, there was but one List of the Class delivered before the Ballot was made & that list was not a True [illegible] said Thomas Oakley, Jur's, Name was not inserted [illegible] law expressly declares that Lists shall be delivered [illegible] Class

[illegible] said Thom's Oak[illegible] Notified that [illegible] Proper mod[illegible] the Class & that

without my direct Information) as a Person not chooseing to associate in hireing a man. The Balot therefore haveing been mad before the Class was furnish'd with an exact list & without the knowledge or aprobation of the S'd Thom's Oakley, Ju'r, whereby he is subjected, contrary to his Inclination, to serve as a Draft in the Continental army for the Space of Nine Monthes. I do therefore consider the Ballot as Irregular not being founded on the Principals of Eaquil Justice & the common rights of mankind, tho I must do the Commanding Officer of the Company & the majority of the Class so much Justice as to say that it does not appear by any Evidence or Circumstance that they intended any injury or unfairness to the s'd Thom's Oakley, Ju'r, but what has hapned has been the effect of mistake & chance which no man ought to suffer for.

I, therefore, order that the s'd Ballot be set aside & that s'd Class be orderd to make a second Tryal to furnish a man for the Purpose above s'd.

Benj'n Tusten Lt. Col.

P. S. Lieut. Jacob Cole will be pleased to se that the above Order is complied with according to Law.

B. T.

Poughkeepsie June 18th 1778.

The within mentioned Lieut. Jacob Cole haveing Refused to comply with the within Order I herby agreeable to an act of the Legislature of this State report him as an Officer Charged with disobedience of Orders.

Benj'n Tusten Lt. Co.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1416.]

Governor Clinton Makes a Decision as to the Rights of the Exempts Under the Militia Law.

Pound Ridge 15 May 1778.

May it Please your Exelencey, We being appointed a Committee by the persons who have the privelidge of associating themselves

into Companyes in Bedford, Salem and this Quarter, to write to your Exelencey, Respecting the millitia act, beg Leave to mention; their are Some Doubts touching the Duties or Obligations of the asociators mentiond in the act, Upon which they would be much obliged to your Excellency for an opinion as the Commander in Chief of the militia.

There are many Exempts who are not Under the necessity By the act, of asociating themselves, and are nevertheless Extreemly willing of associating, provid they by Such association are not bound to go in Service on Detatchments for a Limeted time or out of the State, in Every respect as the Enrolled militia are, They would, therefore, Esteem it a particular favour to know from Your Exelencey, whether they have by the act any greater Priveledge then the Enrolled militia, other than being under the Imediate Command of their own officers and not annexed to any other Regim't when Called out in Detachments. We are your Excellency's Most Obed't Hble. Serv'ts

Jesse Hunt
Philip Leek } Committee.
Benjamin Miller

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Poukeepsie May 23d 1778.

Gent., I have rec'd yours of the 15th Inst. I think the only construction which can be put on the Clause of the militia Law, respect'g the Exempts associating themselves into Companies, is that they are to do Duty agreable to the Tenor of their associations and are not Subject to be called out in Detachment for a limited time in manner as the enrolled militia are, except in Cases of actual Invasions Incursions of the Enemy or Insurections. I am with Esteem Gentlemen Yrs. &ca.

Geo: Clinton.

To Jesse Hunt Philip Leeke & Benjamin Miller.

[No. 1417.]

Colonel John Mead Furnishes General Gates with Startling Information—If True.

Greenwich May 23rd 1778.

Honoured Sir, I would acquaint you by Intelligence I received yesterday from New York, which I believe may be depended on: that the Enemy have ordered all their Troops from Long Island and those at New York and part of those from Staten Island, with all the Horses they can get, to march to the Lines at Kings Bridge and as there is a large Body of Hessians, as is said have lately come from Philadelphia, it is expected there a forming an Expedition into this part of the Country for Plunder, and as there is a great Want of fresh Provision—I expect Necessity will drive them out. I am informed likewise that they have obliged all their Refugees to enter their Service. If, Sir, they should take their Rout into this Part of the country, as is expected I shall not be able to muster but very few to oppose them—hope your Honour has better Information, but for fear, you might not, have sent you this—and am your Obedient Humble Serv't

Major General Gates. John Mead.

Copy.

[No. 1418.]

Colonel Graham Sustains Colonel Mead.

White Plains May 23rd 1778.

Honoured Sir,—I am just informed by a Person from below that there were twelve hundred Men ordered some days ago from New York to Kingsbridge, and that they arrived there yesterday. If they come out with a large Party, which I suspect they intend, we shall be able to obstruct them but little, as we have not more Ammunition, with what I have just rec'd from General McDoug-

all than will furnish the Men with twelve Rounds each. The Information given your Honour by Col. Mead in the Inclosed (if given by the Person I am informed it was) I think it may be depended upon—the Communication being so much obstructed for several Days at Kingsbridge has prevented my getting direct Intelligence—but it is my Opinion they intend making a Diversion this way, while they are embarking at New York.

On Wednesday last there was a general Order for stopping the Communication with Long Island and the main, when I am credibly informed the Press-gangs were sent out, apprehending the Refugees, and seizing all the Crafts, and were at it yesterday. That the Inhabitants were not suffered to stir out of the respective Streets in which they live. I am with respect your Honour's most Obt. and very Hble. Serv't

Major Genl. Gates. Morris Graham, Col.

Copy.

[No. 1419.]

Colonel Graham Puts in a Good Word for Oliver De Lancey.

White Plains May 23d 1778.

Hon'd Sir, This your Honour will Receive by Mr. Oliver Delancey who was taken prisoner by a party of the Continental Troops, for what Reason I cannot Imagine, as all reports from our Friends in the Enemies power agree that he has always acted Honestly. Since I have Commanded at this Post, Mr. Delancey has never kept out of the way; so far from it, he sent me word as I first came here, that if he was any ways Suspected and would acquaint him with it, he would appear.

[illegible] your honour many things may be said in his [illegible]hich I am personally acquainted with. Out of

Regard to the distressed Inhabitants between the Lines I heartily wish he may be permitted to Return in such a manner as may Secure him from the Insults of our People and Render him Unsuspected by the Enemy. I am with Respect Your Honour's most Obedient and Very humble Serv't

Morris Graham Col.

Commanding the Lines Wheschester County.

To The Hon'ble Major General Gates.

[No. 1420.]

Governor Clinton Gives General Scott Advice and Explains Why the Legislature Should Convene at Poughkeepsie Instead of Hurley.

Poughkeepsie 23d May 1778.

Sir, I am favoured with your Letter of the 16th Instant. As most of the Laws which were immediately wanted are already printed Woud it not be best to furnish the Printer with all the Acts & Directions to print them in the Order they passed. I think it woud save Expence & upon the whole expedite the Business of publishing the Laws to the People at large.

The Officers Commanding the Out Posts have positive Orders to seize every Article going into the City & coming out without special Permission and to Detain & Report the same. These Orders were absolutely necessary to destroy a Communication with the Enemy for sake of Trade that was growing very dangerous. But you may rest assured, Sir, that any Article sent out to you which shall come to my Knowledge will be faithfully taken Care of & forwarded.

My Proclamation fixing this Town as the Place for the next meeting of the Legislature issued the Day before your Letter came to Hand. The Place you propose, or Claverack, which is

mentioned by another Gentlemen of the Senate, woud have been equally as agreable to me, but as I conceive the only Reason the Legislature did not determine as to the Place as well as the Time of their next meeting, was because the Opperations of the Enemy might in the Mean Time render the Place so fixt on by them, improper. Taking the Matter, therefore, in this Point of View, it appeared to me most proper for me to fix on the old Place as nothing had happened to render it more Inconvenient than it formerly was, & leaving it to them to adjourn to whatever new Place they may judge more Convenient & proper when they meet. I am with great Respect Your Most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Jno. Morin Scott.]

[Nos. 1421-1422.]

Commissary of Clothing Henry Reports.

Shawangonck 23d May 1778.

Sir, The following is a true Duplicate of the Cloathing Deliver'd Colos. Gansevoort & Livingston on your Orders of the 7th May & 20th Do.

Shirts 500	104	Coarse brown & White Shirts	@ 20/	£104-
	58	Chk. Ditto	@ 24/	69-12
	338	White Shirts, finer quality	@ 26/	439- 8
			£613	£613- 0

Deliver'd Colo'l Gansevoort's Regt. as P Capt. Abm Swartwout's Rec't.

Shirts 400	102	Coarse brown & White Shirts	@ 20/	102-
	50	Chk. Shirts	@ 24/	60-
	248	White Do finer quality	@ 26/	332-8
	24	Under Vests	@ 16/	19-8
				£513-16

eliver'd Colo'l Henry B. Livingston's Regt. as P Lieut. Peter worth's Rec't.

. S. also you have inclos'd a return of Cloathing, Deliver'd)'ls Van Schaick of the 17th Febru'y P Order & Gansevoort's he 9th March, & Cortlandt's of the 24th February, P Order.

hawangonck 24 May 1778.

John Henry Comm'y Cloath'g.

Excellencey George Clinton, Esqr.

W Wasinck 10th March 1778.

)'l Peter Gansevoort

To the State of New York Dr.

)r Clothing Deliver'd Lieut. Thom's McCleland as Fol-

ı Viz.

ts	333 White	Shirts	a 26/	£432–18
	215 Chk.	Do	a 24/	258
	52 Coarse white	Do	a 20/	52
	75 Under Vests		a 16/	60
	25 Pair Shoes		a 16/	20
y)				£822–18

12th March 1778.

'l Philip Cortlandt

To the State of New York Dr.

)r Cloathing Deliver'd Capt. Ab'm Riker as Follows Viz.

s	350 White	Shirts	a 26/	£455
	50 Coarse brown	Do	a 26/	50
	75 Under Vests		a 16/	60
	7 Pair Shies		a 16/	5–12
	41 Pair half worn Hose		a 5/	10– 5
r)				£580–17

Shawangonck 24th May 1778.

John Henry Comm'y Cloath'g.

[No. 1423.]

Lafayette Extricates Himself from a Perilous Position by a Clever Manoeuvre.

York Town May 24th 1778.

Sir, I take the liberty to inclose three Letters which my father requests you will be kind enough to forward by the first opportunity. He was taken ill two days after his arrival at this place (near a fortnight ago) his disorder is of a complicated nature. He has a palpitation at the stomach and an oppression on his bowels. It is impossible to tell what turn the disorder may take.

I left camp on the 21st Instant, I was on a Detachment with the Marquis Le Fayette on the East side of Schuylkill. The Enemy advanced from Phil'a on the evening of the 19th* and by a circuitous Route were next morning in rear of the Marquis's party, expecting to cut off his retreat, but they were disappointed. He extricated himself by crossing Schuylkill at the nearest ford. The enemy returned to the city the same day and the Marquis recrossed Schuylkill next morning. General [Sir Henry] Clinton has the credit of this manoevre.

The Enemy are making every preparation for the evacuation of Phil'a an event which it is generally thought, will soon take place. I have the Honor to be, with the greatest respect & esteem, Your Excellency's most obed't Serv't

Henry Philip Livingston.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

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*This is known as the affair of Barren Hill. Washington reported it as follows, to the President of Congress, under date of May 24, 1778, Headquarters, Valley Forge: "On the night of the 19th the enemy moved out in force against the detachment under the Marquis de Lafayette, mentioned in my letter of the 18th, which made a timely and handsome retreat in great order over the Schuylkill at Matson's Ford. Our loss was nine men in the whole. The enemy's loss is supposed to be something more. Their march was circuitous and rapid, and I should imagine many of their men suffered from it. General Clinton, it is said, commanded in person." —STATE HISTORIAN.

[No. 1424.]

Oliver De Lancey Surrendered to Governor Clinton by General Gates.

Head-Quarters, Fish-Kill, May 24th 1778.

Sir, Mr. Frederick Jay brings to your Excellency Mr. Oliver De Lancey, whom the General considers as a Prisoner of this State, and I am commanded to request your Excellency will give such orders respecting him as your Excellency may think proper. I have the Honor to be, With the greatest Respect, Sir, Your Excellency's Most humble Obedient Servant

Rob. Troup, A. D. C. to M. Gen. Gates.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 1425.]

WASHINGTON HOLDS HIS ARMY READY TO MOVE.

Believes Howe Will Start Across New Jersey if he Changes His Position.

Valley Forge 25th May 1778.

Sir, I was yesterday favour'd with yours of the 21st instant, he Enemy have been constantly busy since my last in embarking heir cannon and Stores. I do not yet find out that they mean to attack this Army before they go off but I rather think if they move at all by land that it will be across Jersey. Under this uncertainty I cannot alter my Position untill they change theirs. I hold the Army ready to move at the Shortest notice towards the North River Should circumstances require it. In the mean time I would have you make yourself as respectable as possible by Stopping all the recruits and calling in as many militia as you can feed. I cannot account for the evacuation of King's Bridge and Fort Washington if they mean to keep the city, as they are the Keys to the Island.

I would have you by all means exchange the British Convalescents and I would have you direct our Deputy Commiss'y of Prisoners to receive those in return who have been longest in captivity. You will undoubtedly take the proper precautions when the Prisoners pass our Posts upon the River.

You may depend upon having constant intelligence of the Motions of the Enemy in this Quarter from me & I shall depend upon the same from You. I am Sir Your most Obt. Ser.

G: Washington.

To the Honorable Major Genl. Gates.

[No. 1426.]

An Extraordinary Petition in Behalf of James Essmond.

Beekman's Precinct May 25th 1778.

May it Please Your Excellency. Whereas James Essmond (now under sentence of Death in Albany Goal) Went about Two years since from Beekman's Precinct, where the subscribers were for a number of years personally acquainted with him, & ever look'd upon him to be (tho' Poor), an honest laborious man, as was his former Character from Long Island, as far as we have ever heard. altho' he was of a wavering Disposition, Easily seduced & fond of merry Company. Not being acquainted with the Facts respecting his later Conduct, we doubt not in the least that his sentence is just, Being fully perswaded that a man's true Character in every situation of Life is justly his Due, nor conceiving this attempt will at all Interfere with the just proceedings of the Honorable Court by which he was Condemned, at the Request of some of his worthy Relatives we beg leave to offer the above to your Canded Consideration, & to Subscribe ourselves,

Your Excellency's most humble & most obedient servants

James V D Burgh, Maurice Pleas, John Huling, Roger Mory Jun'r, Roger Mory, Area de Long, Joshua Mory, Johanes de long, James Noxon, John Moon, John Cornell, Job Tanner, Henry Smith, John Lane, John Weaver, Jacob Deyo, Nathaniel Hicks, Philip Amey, Philip Amey Juner, Samuel Cornell, Jeremiah Amey, Jehonas Amey, Valentine Haüer, Thomas Nethaway, Wilhelm Koons, Richard Triepp.

To his Excellency Geo. Clinton Govern'r &c. of the State of N. York.

[No. 1427.]

Governor Clinton Regards Oliver De Lancey, Jr., as a Prisoner, and so Gives Him His Parole.

Poukeepsie May 25th 1778.

Dear Sir, I received your Letter by Mr. Jay who called upon me this Morning with Mr. Oliver De Lancey, Jun'r. Tho I have heard many Circumstances in Favour of Mr. De Lancey, yet at this critical Juncture I have thought it mostadviseable to consider him as a Prisoner & have accordingly put him on his Parole at a Place called "the City" in this County about 20 Miles East of this—a very safe Place inhabited by good subjects. I have promised him, that Orders shoud be given to prevent his Stock & Effects from being taken by our People in his absence, & that his Horse now in Capt. Barnes' Possession shoud be delivered up to Mr. Stevens or Colo. Thomas of West Chester County for his Use which you will oblidge me by doing. I am with the greatest Respect Your most Obed't Ser.

[G. C.]

De Lancey is a very bad Name.

Major Genl. Gates.

[No. 1428.]

EFFORTS TO CONCILIATE THE INDIANS.

James Duane Notifies General Schuyler of His Efforts for Harmony—Hostility of the Senecas.

Oneida May 25th 1778.

Sir,—I have defered writing several Days after the Return of the Sachems from Onondaga in Hopes of being able to give you a just Account of the Situation of Affairs among the six Nations. But the Intelligence I receive is so various and contradictory that it is impossible to determine what are their real Intentions. It is however now publicly known that three different parties of Quiyogas [Cayugas] are already gone to War upon the Frontiers of Virginia and Pennsylvania. It is also said that Joseph Brant is at the Head of a fourth, and that he is to collect his Friends upon the Susquehannah & attack Cherry Valley. The party of 124 Senecas mentioned in my last are since returned from War. They have taken thirteen scalps and two prisoners with the loss of several of their party. From the best Accounts I have been able to collect, it appears that the Onondagas are much divided in Sentiment and that a party of the Senecas have observed a Neutrality since the Beginning of the War and still wish to live in Friendship with the United States. Upwards of twenty, mostly of this party arrived here yesterday on their Way to Albany to procure an Exchange of prisoners. I expect them to leave this to Morrow. They are determined to proceed to whatever part of the State you shall please to direct them to effect their purpose. They were ordered by their Sachems to go no farther than the Boundary Line and procure an Exchange there. But the Oneidas presuming upon their Interest and Influence with the Commissioners encouraged them at the late Council at Onondaga with Assur-

ances of personal Safety to proceed to Albany or whatever place the prisoner they are in quest of may be confined. The other part of the Senecas, which is by far the most considerable, seem resolved to make no Terms with us, tho I believe there is no Danger of their attacking the Frontiers of Tryon County, while so large a party of their people are down in our Country. The Onondagas have sent three Runners successively to the Quiyogas and Senecas to call them to the intended Meeting, but hitherto to no purpose. They have, therefore, declared their final Resolutions not to address them again upon the Subject But to return the Commissioners Belts at Albany. All the Quiyogas not gone out to war are now attending a Conference with Mr. Butler & the Senecas at Kanadasege.

Upon the whole there appears but very little prospect that any Council will be held to deliberate upon the Commissioners speech —or should such an Event finally take place I do not expect they will make such satisfaction for their repeated Violations of Treaties as can be accepted.

Your Speech of the 11th Inst. I have communicated to the Oneidas and Tuscaroras to their great Satisfaction and yesterday repeated the same to the Senecas now here. The Oneidas have of late been under great Apprehensions of Danger. Not long since two of their young Men were fired upon by a party of the Enemy not far from this Village. But as it was in the Dusk of the Evening they both fortunately made their Escape unhurt. They are much concerned that there are no Troops near their Country to march to their Assistance in Case of a sudden Invasion. I have just received an Intimation from the Sachems that they determine to address a Speech to the Commiss'rs as soon as they can find Liesure & opportunity from whence you will be able to collect

their Sentiments upon the present Situation of Affairs here. I have not been able to procure any more Warriors to join General Washington's Army. Their Apprehensions of Danger is such that they think it their Duty to stay & protect their Women and Children.

For farther particulars I must beg Leave to refer you to the Rev'd Mr. Kirkland who is the Bearer of this and to subscribe myself Sir &c.

J's Deane.

Honble. Major Genl. Schuyler.

Copy.

[No. 1429.]

Governor Clinton Asks Philip Schuyler's Advice Relative to the Best Means of Ascertaining the Duplicity of Burgoyne's Men.

Poukeepsie May 26th 1778.

D'r Sir, Information having been rec'd that divers Infractions have been made by the Enemy upon the Convention of Saratoga, particularly by compelling some of the Prisoners of War to bear Arms ag't the United States since their Return to Canada, I am directed by Congress to take proper Measures for ascertaining the Truth of this Information. I shall, therefore, be much obliged to you for your Opinion & advice as to the Steps most proper to be pursued for this Purpose, particularly whether it will be practicable to send Persons secretly into Canada to execute this business. Perhaps some of the Inhabitants of the Northern Parts of the State who being included in the Convention went off with the Enemy into Canada & are returned may be able to ascertain these Facts. If this should be the Case I shall esteem it a particular Favor if you will cause their Examinations to be taken on Oath

& transmitted to me. Deserters from the Enemy may also be possessed of those Facts. I coud wish also to have them examined on the Subject. I am with great Esteem & Respect Sir Your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

The Hon'ble Major Genl. Schuyler.

[No. 1430.]

Governor Clinton Intercedes for Several Quakers with General Gates.

Poughkeepsie 26th May 1778.

Dear Sir, The several Persons mentioned in the inclosed Certificates, being by Profession Quakers, have applied to me for Permission to attend the yearly Meeting of that Scociety to be held at Westberry on Long Island on Saturday next. I am not personally acquainted with either of them but from the Charecters, given them by the gentlemen who have subscribed the Certificates, with whom I am well acquainted & know to be zealous Friends to the American Cause, I have no Objections to their being indulged with Liberty, to attend their Meeting and shoud be glad they might have your Permission, provided it can be granted them consistent with the good of the Service. I am with great Regard Your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Sarah Merrit–by Benj. Ferris

Elihu Bunker–by Benj'n Birdsall } Justice Peace.
Abiah Sweet–by Do }

Nath'l Stevenson } by John Field
Benj'n & Dan'l Haviland } Wm. Mott & Jos. Crane

Gen'l. Gates.

[No. 1431.]

Governor Clinton Solicits the Assistance of Alexander Webster in His Efforts to Prove Delinquency on the Part of British Prisoners.

Poukeepsie May 26th 1778.

Sir, Information having been received that divers Infractions have [been] made by the Enemy upon the Convention of Saratoga; particularly by compelling some of the Prisoners of War to bear Arms ag't the United States since their Return to Canada, I am directed by Congress to take proper Measures for ascertaining the Truth of this matter. Perhaps some of the Inhabitants in your Quarter who were included in the Convention & went of with the Enemy into Canada may have returned & be able to ascertain these Facts. I would, therefore, esteem it a particular favor in you to make Enquiry among them as also of the other Deserters from the Enemy, and cause such of their Examinations as you may think of any weight to be taken on Oath & transmitted to me as soon as you conveniently can. If you meet with any who can give explicit & convincing Evidence of the Fact you will please to forward such Persons to me & I will pay the Expence attending the same & reward them for their Time & Trouble in coming here & Returning. I am with great Respect, Sir, Your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Alex'r Webster Esqr.

[No. 1432.]

Colonel Graham Reports Movements of the Enemy to General Gates.

White Plains May 27 1778. Six Clock in the P. M.

Honoured Sir. This moment I received the following Intelligence by a person that may be depended upon.

That Brown's Corps embarked last Sunday at Hellgate—Fanning's were to march yesterday and embark at the same place, that all the Troops at and near the Bridge are under marching Orders, and one British Regiment had lately come to the Bridge and is encamped on Hyatt's Hill.

Col. Emerick who lays on this Side the Bridge, has taken great pains within a few days to make us believe he intends an Expedition to Tarry Town by Water, by reporting it to people, who he supposed would convey it to us.

The Tories impressed at New York and sent on Board the Shipping, amounted to near one Thousand Men last Sunday.

Yesterday Morning I went with the Regiment within Sight of the Fort, and they knew of my being there, but never attempted to draw near us. I am Your Honour's most Obedient and very Humble Servant

Morris Graham.

To the Honble. Major General Gates.

Copy.

[Nos. 1433-1434.]

CHARLOTTE COUNTY'S CHAOTIC CONDITION.

Governor Clinton Assures Ebenezer Clark That the Subject Will Be Submitted to the Council.

Poughkeepsie May 27th 1778.

Sir, I rec'd your Letter of the 18th Inst. yesterday by Mr. Rowan. Your former Letters respect'g the refusal of the Judges & magistrates to qualify & take upon them the execution of their offices were also some time ago delivered to me. The repeated Complaints from your County of abuses committed by Committees & military Officers gives me great Pain and it is much to be

regretted that those who are appointed to the civil magistracy should deprive them of the only legal means of obtaining Redress in the Courts of Justice where alone Suits might be commenced & satisfaction obtained for every grievance they complain of. By a little attention to the militia Law you will discover that it is only for neglect or refusal to perform Duty that I can try & punish Militia Officers by Courts Martial for every other Offence or abuse committed by them they are subject to prosecution in the Courts of Justice.

It is true the Council of Appointment have a Right to remove all Officers at their Pleasure & it is their indispensible Duty to remove such as Missbehave. The Petition & Complaints of the People, therefore, shall be faithfully laid before the Council who are to meet this day but even tho on a Hearing, the Complaints Should appear to be well founded & the Persons complained of removed from Office yet in this Way no Compensation is made to the Person injured. Your Courts must therefore be opened or your People want Justice. I am Sir Yrs. &ca.

Geo: Clinton.

Eben'r Clarke Esqr.

And Notifies Alexander Webster that the Courts Must Be Opened.

Poukeepsie May 27th 1778.

Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of the 19th Inst. I am exceedingly sorry to hear that you have been deprived of hold'g Elections in your County for want of the Law. I understood by the Sec'y that they were sent to the County in Season. It gives me great Pain to hear of the Complaints ag't the militia Officers. I shall lay them before the Council of Appointm't who meet this Day & I doubt not that proper notice will be taken of them. This is the

only thing in my power to do for the Complainants. To enable the Persons injured to obtain proper redress your Courts of Justice must be opened. It is, therefore, absolutely necessary that the Judges & other civil magistrates of the County qualify & enter upon the Execution of their offices without Delay. It gives me Pleasure to hear that the Board of Commiss'rs are likely to be useful in your County; but tho that Institution is well calculated to detect & defeat Conspiracies & awe the Disaffected yet the ordinary Civil Magistracy is absolutely necessary to maintain the Peace of the County & administer Justice among the well affected Subjects. I am D'r Sir with great Regard Your Most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Alex'r Webster Esqr.

[Nos. 1435-1436-1437.]

NEW YORK AND THE HAMPSHIRE GRANTS.

Opposition to the Appointment of a Sheriff—Efforts to Hold Vermont to New York.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State of New York, General of all the Militia, and Admiral of the Navy of the same; and to the honorable the Council of Appointment of the said State.

At the Request of a number of respectable Inhabitants of Brattleborough in the County of Cumberland, I do certify as follows, to wit, That on the eighteenth of May instant I saw Simon Stevens, Esqr. of Springfield, in this County, who informed me that he was elected a Lieutenant Colonel under the New State. That he had not then received his Commission, and was not determined to accept it. That he had nevertheless, since his Election, written Letters to several Captains to furnish their Quotas of Men, (which

I understood of Men directed to be raised by the Government of the pretended State of Vermont). That his reason for giving the Orders was, that he thought it necessary the Men should be raised, and did not think best to be too critical in examining by what authority (or words tantamount). That his Sentiments were the same as formerly, respecting the New State. That he declined signing the Protest agreed to by several Towns against the pretended State of Vermont, because he had promised not to act in favour of New York, until the Return of the Agents, which the Council of the New State were about sending to Congress.

That upon what Capt'n James Clay had said to him, about being appointed Sheriff of this County under the State of New York, he had concluded (if appointed) to write to the Assembly, and if they would engage to indemnify him against any Damage he might suffer by accepting the office, he would execute it; otherwise not.

Micah Townsend.

Brattleborough 27th May 1778.

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* * * *

The Inhabitants of the Town Brattleborough, in the County of Cumberland, having understood from Captain James Clay, that the Government of New York intended to appoint Simon Stevens Esqr., Sheriff of the said County, that the Inhabitants thereof who are well affected to the State of New York, may have an Oppertunity of sending Representatives to the Assembly at their next sitting, if the Advocates for a new State will peaceably permit an Election to be held; and from the Information contained in the inclosed Certificate, as well as from common Report, apprehending that if Mr. Stevens is appointed to that office, the Voters

in the County will be once more deprived of their Priviledge of electing Representatives in Assembly, and giving their voices for a——* and imagining that your Excellency, and the honorable Board, by reason of your Distance from us, are so little acquainted wtih the attachment of particular Persons, in this part of the Country, to the State of New York, that a Recommendation to that Office, by this Town, although not strictly regular, (yet being the best that can in so short a time be obtained) may not be displeasing:—We take the Liberty of Recommending Major Hilkiah Grout, of Weathersfield, in this County, as a Person well attached to the Government of New York State, and as the most proper of any in the County, that we have heard of, who are willing, in this difficult day, to accept of the Sheriff's office.

Signed by an unanimous Order of the Town Meeting held in Brattleborough 27th May 1778.

Sam'l Warriner, Moderator.

P. S. The Committee of the Town of Hinsdale, having been consulted upon the Subject, approve our recommending Major Grout to your Excellency & the honorable Board for the office above mentioned.

Brattleborough in Cumberland County May 27th 1778.

May it please your Excellency, We were directed by a Convention of Committees from several Towns which met here the last month, to send one Copy of a Protest which they had signed to your Excellency, one other to the Press at Hartford, in Connecticut, and another to the assembly of the pretended State of Vermont. Having a Convenient Oppertunity, we forward the one to your Excellency before the signing is fully compleated.

*MS. torn.

We also inclose a Copy of a circular Letter sent by the Convention to several Towns in this County, recommending the Choice of Committees; the principal Design of which we apprehend is to preserve Union amongst the Friends of New York State, & enable them to act with Unanimity as Occasions offer, for increasing the Number of the Friends of New York Government, & with Expedition to carry into Execution such Directions as they may receive from your Excellency.

The Assembly of Vermont, at their Session in April last, directed a Body of Men to be raised to compleat Colo. Warner's Regiment; the Council have since, we are told, altered the Plan and propose to have the Corps for the Defence of the Grants only. It is with Pleasure we can assure your Excellency, that in this part of the County no Soldiers have been raised for that Purpose, even in those Towns who are the warmest advocates for a new State; the People not thinking proper to obey their Rulers, when it is inconvenient for them to do it. Nor do we hear of any being enlisted or drafted in any part of the County, although the time fixed upon for beginning their Service was the 1st instant.

It is with real Concern we are able to acquaint your Excellency, that it is too general a Topic of Conversation, among the Enemies of New York State, that they will maintain their New State, even if Congress should be opposed to it—because they had as good a right to declare themselves independant of New York, as the Congress had of Great Britain. To what Lengths this Doctrine will lead them may easily be seen. It appears absolutely necessary to the Friends of New York State in this part of the Country, that Congress should, in an explicit manner, recommend to these People to yeild their allegiance to the State

of New York, before they have time to reason themselves out of their Senses:—if it is not done soon, it will perhaps be omitted till none of them will pay any regard to the Recommendations of Congress. Besides, as we are not likely to be troubled this Summer with any considerable Body of British Troops, it seems to be the most favourable Season for settling internal Tranquility, and enabling this extensive part of the Country to act in the Common Cause with Vigour and Unanimity, when the Circumstances of the Continent may require it.

Those who have taken the Oath which the Constitution of Vermont requires to be administred, previous to voting at Elections, are in this part of the County, and by the best Information we can get throughout the Grants, a very inconsiderable Number compared with the Inhabitants at large.

We are pleased to have it in our Power to acquaint your Excellency, that your Proclamation, of the 23d February last, has been productive of some Good in this County, notwithstanding the many unmanly artifices made Use of by the New Statesmen to prevent it. We are Your Excellency's most obedient Servants,

Micah Townsend.

Israel Smith.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 1438.]

DANGERS OF THE FRONTIER.

Statement of an Alleged British Captain, Acting as an Emissary for the Tories and Indians.

Minisink May ye 28th Anno: Domny 1778.

Then appeared before me John Dacker, Maj'r, one Nicholas Conkolin, and Declared upon oath, that he Received this whithin

writen Instrument from the Subscriber thereof, and saw him write it in his house, and he Discoursed with him further, and he Inform'd me Namely this, that there was Gathered with Butler at Oswego about Seven Thousand; and as for their force, he told me they had at Ticonderoga, I forget but however it was Supperior to what was with Butler; and as for the force they had at Quawgo [Oquaga] he would not tell me; and further Some of this within Subscriber'd Capt. Company told me that Next Wednesday they was to gather at Quawgo in order to Receive their orders. As Witness my hand

Nicholas Conklin.

This is to Certify his Excellency Governor Clinton that we know this Deponent to be a Cliver Sivel Gentlemen and A friend to the American Cause. as Witness our hands.

John Dacker, Maj'r, Philip Swartwoud, Salomon Cuykendal, Abraham Vanauken, Simon Westfall.

Coshackton May 27th 1778.

Gentelmen offesers and Cummanders at the Meaneasinks: These Cumes to Inform you That the Volanteers and Indens Doth Not Intend to hurt aney of the frunteers if tha keep thare Selves Still, and Minds thare Buysness, and Dont Hurt the frinds to goverment; for we are Informed that tha Inhabatance is Moving a way for feer of Us, and I am Cum Down My Self to this place to Dezier the Inhabtance, that tha Need Not Be a frade of aney Hurt, if thay Stay at Home, But By thare Moving and Caring of fauls News, in Rages the pashon of the Indens, But thare is one thing that I Dezier of you as a frind, that is to Move your gards Back, for that In Rages the Indens, and Will Be the ocasion of the Indens fauling on that place

and Distring all Before them; and if you Do that, the Inhabatence May Live in Safaty; and if Not thay Must Take What follows. I am one of the British offesers that am Sent to Look into these Maters, and a frend to all Human Nater, But your proceedince is Working your own Ruen, Which you Will find Before Long, if you Dont Take My Councel; and for Robing and plundering of the Whigs it is Beneeth the Sparit of a British Offeser or Solder, altho you Have Made it your Buysness to Rob and plunder the frinds to Goverment yet the Davel has Not so Much Power Over Us as yet, and I hope Neaver Shall; But We Meen that Law Shall Take place in a Short Time and Make the gilty Siffer a Cording to thare Dezarts; and I Beag that you Wold Not Troubel the frinds to Goverment as Long as tha Lay Still; this is the advoice of a frind; for feer of Wors following So No More from yours; But I am your Humbl Sarvent

Charles Smith, Capt.

[No. 1439.]

COLONEL UDNY HAY SUBMITS A GREAT PLAN.

Which Governor Clinton Promptly Crushes—In the Interest of the Farmer.

Fish Kill, May 27th 1778.

Sir, As we are beginning to form an Army which will make it necessary to have a Number of Waggons from this State to be kept Constant for the Ready removal of the Baggage on all Occasions when the General shall think it necessary from a desire to observe a Strict Impartiality in my Demands on the Differant parts of this State for Waggons or any thing Else which it becomes my duty to procure & they by law are obliged to furnish, I take the liberty to beg your Excellency would Reccommend to

me, some person well acquainted with the Resourses of Every District to whom I would for the Time he might be wanted, allow a generous Price in Compensation for his Trouble. Otherwise we Shall be Apt from our Ignorance of the Country to make our demands Cheifly from the vicinity of the Camp which I am sensible would be an act of Injustice and which by the assistance of such a person as I have described might be easily avoided. Permitt me further to Inform you of the Great inconvenience which arises from so few Justices of the peace being Sworn into Office, the nearest to this place is Thomas Storm Esq. Distant Ten miles. Would Time have permitted, I should have done myself the pleasure of waiting on you myself. I have the Honour to be with due Respect Hon'd Sir Your most obed't humble Ser't

Udny Hay.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

Poughkeepsie 28th May 1778.

Sir, I have received your Letter of the 27th Instant. To have the Teams of the Farmer constantly in the Field for the removal of the Baggage of the army appears to me to be a new and very extraordinary Measure. I know of no Law to warrant Impresses for that Purpose, and I am sure, however, impartially managed it woud prove very distressing to the Country & tend to the Discouragement of Husbandry. The Farmer has hitherto chearfully furnished his Team for transporting Stores & Provision for the Army on extraordinary Occassions, & for the removal of Stores on any sudden Emergency, But the stated Number of Teams wanted for the ordinary Use of the Army have always been furnished by the Quarter Master Genl. or his Deputies at the Expence of the Continent. I must decline recommending any Per-

son to act in the Quarter Master's Department as an Assistant. It is my Duty to Correct Abuses committed by them & while I execute that Trust faithfully I will at the same Time grant you every Aid in my Power. I am Sir Your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

I will endeavour to have a greater Number of Justices qualified in your Neighbourhood..

[To Col. Udny Hay.]

[No. 1440.]

Gouverneur Morris Submits a Questionable Plan for Regimental Promotion.

York Town 28th May 1778.

Sir, I take the Liberty of observing to your Excellency that as the appointment of Officers to a Colo., is in the several States, so after the arrangement of the army which I hope will soon be compleated, some mode Should, by the State, be adopted to keep the Regiments full as to Officers, and some Line of Promotion chalked out for their Satisfaction. What I have to propose is, that the General, or the General who may command in a seperate Department, be invested with the Power of filling up vacancies in the following manner, to wit: that from an Ensign to a Major exclusively the Promotions shall be in the Regimental Line and from a Captain upwards in the Line of the State. That generally Seniority shall be regarded but that a Power be given in extraordinary Cases of merit or Demerit to vary from that Principle. These things, Sir, I take it are within the Province of the Council of Appointment, and they will doubtless see the Propriety of giving to the General under whose Eye our troops may be placed the Power of rewarding their Bravery and Conduct or of punishing

by neglect the want of these necessary Qualifications. This will give Zeal and Energy to the Service but I will not dilate upon a Proposition of which you will at the first Glance discern the Propriety. I am with great Respect Your Excellency's most obed't & humble Servant

Gouv'r Morris.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 1441.]

Governor Clinton Receives from Massachusetts a Letter in Regard to Regulating Prices.

State of Massachusetts Bay.

Council Chamber Boston May 28th 1778.

Sir, The General Assembly of this State wrote to Congress on the 27th Day of April last giving them the reasons that prevailed with them to refrain from passing an act for regulating the Prices of Labour Produce &c. submitting this matter to their further Consideration a Copy of which Letter you have inclosed. We have not as yet received the determinations of Congress upon this Subject as they come to hand we shall write you further. In the name & behalf of the Council, I am Sir, with great respect Y'r most obed't hbl. ser't

Jer: Powell, Presid't.

[To Governor George Clinton.]

[No. 1442.]

Colonel Hardenbergh Appeals to Governor Clinton for Advice and Writing Paper.

New Hurly Ulster County May 29, 1778.

May it please your Excellency, I this moment Rece'd Orders by your Hon'rs Command, that the officers Commanding Corps of

militia, are forthwith to See that their Differrent Corps are properly provided with arms &c., agreeable to the militia Law; and that Such of the Exempts as have not associated themselves agreeable to the said Law, are to be forthwith enrooled in the Company of the beat wherein they Rispictively reside.

Which militia Law we are unacquainted with, not haveing had Oppurtunity of obtaining the said Law, because they were not to be had, & of Course Do not Know to act agreeable.

I wou'd Remind your Hon'r, that about Last Fabr'r Collo. Hasbrouk (by your order) made a Return of the state of the Regt., and Lodged it, in your Office, wherein was noted the Several Vacancies of officers and Expected then, as it was (by your Hon'rs urgent order) that the Regt. wou'd have been fill'd up with Officers & Commissions, the officers in Genl. Looks on their former Commissions to be out of Date, & of no effect, and expects their New Commissions.

I Dont think it is in the power of the Officers of this Regt. to perform the Duties Imposed on them by the said militia Law, untill the Vacancies in the Regt. are filled up & the Others Served with new Commissions—therefore wou'd beg your Hon'r to Endeavour the forwarding the said Commissions that the Regt. might be in perfect Order. Your Hon'r will perceive by the Return From Collo. Hasbrouk, that the Capts. Lieuts. & Ensigns, made a promise to Except of the Commissions as he Returned them, but the field & Staff Officers did not Ingage to Except of New Commissions. Collo. Hasbrouck then Laid down the Command of the Regt. & Indeed Ever since Refused to act, the Rest of the field Officers, In perticular Maj'r Dubois, Seems to Decline, what he may do (if Offered) I will not say, Who Ever I hope your Hon'r will Endeavour to Compleat that matter as soon as Possible,

I will Indeavour to answer the purport of this order as far as is in my Power. I Remain with Great Esteem Your Verry Humble Obedient Serv't

Joh's Hardenbergh Jur.

P. S. Hon'rd S'r, what to do for writing Paper I Dont Know. I wish your Hon'r wou'd put me in the way to git Some.

To George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1443.]

A Board of Officers Establishes Lieutenant Colonel Regnier's Rank.

At a Board of General officers held Vally Forge May 29th 1778—agreable to a General order May 28th have made the Following Report:

The Claims of Lt. Colo. Regnier, and the other Lt. Col. of the State of New York Respecting their Standing in Rank being Considered, the Board are of oppinion, that Lt. Colo. Regnier, will take Rank of these Getelm: upon Court Martials Detachments and all Dutys from the Line, but that they Comand him, in the line of the State, for notwithstanding Lt. Colo. Regnier, his Rank as Lt. Colo. wass antecedent to theirs in the line, yet his apointment in the State was Posterior,

His Excellency Ratifies the Report.

[No. 1444.]

Governor Clinton Intercedes in Behalf of Miss Clopper.

Poukeepsie May 29th 1778.

Dear Sir, The Bearer Miss Clopper came up here from New York last Fall for some of her own & her Aunt, Mrs. Jones', Cloathing, which was sent by them out of the City previous to the

Enemy's taking possession of it. There are many Circumstances respecting Mr. Jones & his wife that speak much in their Favour; from all accounts they have been cruely treated by the Enemy & by them considered as Rebels. I wish, therefore, Miss Clopper may be indulged with your Liberty to return to her Aunt in the City, who's distresses are increased by her absence & I have given her my Permission if approved by you. Yours Sincerely

G. C.

The Hon'ble Genl. Gates.

[No. 1445.]

Governor Clinton Acknowledges Receipt of Four Letters from President Laurens.

Poughkeepsie 29th May 1778.

Sir, I have barely to acknowledge the Receipt of your Excellency's Letters of the 11th* 13th† 16th‡ and 23d† Instant and to assure you that the several Matters contained in the Papers they inclosed shall be faithfully attended to. I have the Honor to be with the Highest Esteem Your Excellency's Most Obed't Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

His Excellency Henry Laurens Esqr. Presid't of Congress.

[No. 1446.]

Major John Decker Sends Forward Another Story Menacing the Frontier.

Northampton County in the State of Penslvania May 29th 1778, the apeared before me, James Vanakin Esqr. one of the Justices of the pease for the Said County one, Bezalel Tyler, and was Duly Sworen on the holy a Vengles of the Almity God and Saith, that

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*See pages 303-304. † Not found. ‡ See pages 314-315.

on 26 of this Instant the Deponent was informed that their wa party of the British forces Came Down to Coshethton after provision & the Deponent Saith that he Saw a part of Said Company Carry up three Conues Lodes of provisions with Some Killed hoges, Broke open and plundred the house of Moses Tomas, and broake and Distroyed the furniture of the house; the Deponent Saieth he might have Seen Distrueing, only I was afraied as I was a friend to the United States and have been Theatened to be takin to Niagaria; and Said Deponent Saith that he was informed that Joseph Ross told Sarrah Evens that if I Did not Come in to the Capt. of Said Company, Said Capt. would Dive his Cattle and Kill or Take him, take Me, and Said Capt. Sent a messaege by Paul Tyler that if I Did not Com in into him, he would Give me a Damd Rub Before he would Gow of and Said Deponent was informed that the Capt. of Said Company Saide that theire armey would Cleare their way thwew to New York by the Midle of June next further this Deponent Saieth not, this is true Copey Taken

By Me Jeames Vanakin Esqr.

Sir, I have Sent you this Copey that you might have the opertunity to See Both.

this from your Verry humble Servant

John Decker, Meg.

For the Honorble Gorge Clinton, Govenor of Nuw York.

[No. 1447.]

COBLESKILL DESTROYED.

Stark Hears that the Tories and Indians Are on the Warpath in the Valley of the Susquehanna.

Schoharry 30th May 1778.*

Hon'ble Sir, As part of our Regiment of Militia with the Continental Troops have been attacked by the Tories and Savages and being not able to stand them, they gave way and eleven or twelve of the Continental Troops are returned, the Capt. & Lieut. are killed and how many of the Militia are missing we are not able to give an exact account, but shall as soon as we are able. Cobus Kill is destroyed. We hope you will send us Reinforcement as soon as possible, and some ammunition as we are much in want of it. We have a small Field Piece. I hope you will send some Grape shot for it and we remain Your most humble Serv'ts

William Dietz, Esq.
Thomas Cheson, Major.
Jost Becker, Major.

N. B. the number of the Enemy as near as we can Learn is about three or four hundred.

One O'Clock at night.

Genl. Starke.

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* There seems to be as much uncertainty over the date of this affair as there was for many years over the date of the burning of Kingston. If the date of document No. 1447, printed above, is correct, Cobleskill was attacked on Saturday the 30th of May. But this date disagrees with that given by a number of historical writers. Stone, a very careful writer, has mentioned two dates in his life of Brant. The second date he fixes as the Saturday preceding Whitsunday, which in 1778 fell upon May 31st. Brown, in his pamphlet history, erroneously places the date as the 1st day of June or July in the year 1776, but in a subsequent interview, admits the error but erroneously makes the date Saturday, June 1, 1778—June 1, 1778, having fallen on Monday. Campbell, another trustworthy historian, a far out of the way as he gives the date as May, 1779. Saturday, May 30, 1778, is unquestionably the correct date.—STATE HISTORIAN.

[No. 1448.]

Christopher Yates Corroborates the Story.

Schoharie May 30th 1778.

Sir, I arrived here about three o'Clock this afternoon found the people in great disorder the Chief Part of the Families of Cobus Kill are Escaped but the buildings all destroy'd; by all accounts they have taken all the provisions and Cattle along with them; we have this afternoon received Information that a party far Superior to that of Cobus Kill, or perhaps them Joined with the other, are to come upon Schoharie in order to destroy the whole; the man that brought this Intelligence, Colo. Zealen, Tells me may be depended on. I wish You may Push on with the militia and the ammunition, if the ammunition is not come Send to Albany with all Speed. I am Sir Your Humble Servant

Chris'r Yates.

To Colo. Wempel.

Copy.

[No. 1449.]

The Governor Through His Secretary Orders Colonel Klock to Send a Detachment to Unadilla.

Poukeepsie May 30th 1778.

Sir, It has been represented to his Excellency the Gov'r that number of Tories have collected themselves together at or ab't Unadilla in your County where they are meditating some dangerous Plott ag't the frontier Inhabitants. If this should be true an Expedition ag't them by a Detachm't of your militia, under the command of a spirited & prudent officer, might be attended with very important Consequences. I am directed, therefore, to inform you that it is his Excellency's desire that you advise with the other field Officers & the Principal men among respect'g this measure & (if it should be tho't practicable) that you immediately

ler out such a Detachment of the militia as may be tho't necesry for the purpose & that the command of them be given to ajor Clide. His Excellency hopes that in advising with Persons this Subject you will not confine yourself to any particular arty or set of men but that you will be influenced only by most nsible & spirit'd. I am &ca.

Rob't Benson, A. D. C.

olo. Klock.

[No. 1450.]

GATES HEARS THE NEWS.

rompt Action Prevented Until "Church is Over" "For Fear of Frightening" Albany "Into Fitts."

Albany 31st May 1778.

Dear General, I enclose you Copys of two letters I received rom Schohary. This Tragical Scheme has been some days brewng, but little expected it would have come to this.

I shall send them all the Relief in my power, but I assure you t will be a slender Reinforcement.

I have apply'd to General Tenbrooks for his militia, & he has promised to assist me as soon as Church is over; he cannot do any Business before, for fear of Frightning the Town into fitts.

Should be glad to have some few field pieces for the protection of this Quarter, as we are weak in men, and weaker in artillery; If you could spare me one Regiment more, I think it wou'd be highly necessary for the benefit of the United. I wrote you once Concerning moving the British Hospital to New England—must desire you would immediately order it moved, as they are very troublesome here. I am, in haste Your affe't Hum. Ser't

John Stark.

The Honble. Major Genl. Gates.

[No. 1451.]

General Ten Broeck Reports to Governor Clinton that a Detachment Will March to Schoharie Immediately.

Albany 31st May 1778.

Sir, General Stark by this Express sends your Excellency Copy of a letter he has Just Received from Schohary. In Consequence of his application to me I have Ordered out ¼ part of Eleven Regiments in my Brigade to march Immediately to Schohary, which I hope will meet your Excellency's approbation. I am with great Respect Your Excellency's Most Obedient Humble Servant

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1452.]

ALBANY SURE ENOUGH ALARMED.

The Mayor and General Ten Broeck Present Its Unprotected Condition to Governor Clinton.

Albany May 31st 1778.

Sir, We enclose your Excellency Copy of a Letter received from Schoharry; alarming as the accounts from that Quarter are, we apprehend farther danger not only from the Indians collecting at Kanasedego under Mr. Butler, an account whereof General Schuyler informs us he has transmitted your Excellency, but from the numerous Tories which we are informed have within this fortnight past gone of, to join either the Enemy that have destroyed the Settlements on Cobus Kill or those collecting at Kanasedego, and at other places for Hostile purposes. Many of our Militia, Sir, are employed in the public service as Carpenters, Blacksmiths, Batteaumen or Waggoners,

d it is to be lamented that we still have too many Tories, and it is probable that the affair of Cobus Kill will oblige all e Inhabitants on the Mohawk River to be in arms, the utmost stress must Inevitably take place from so many Hands being ken from the necessary Husbandry. We have, therefore, ost earnestly to intreat your Excellency to use your Influence procure a Body of Continental Troops to be sent up to our lief. Many other reasons might be urged to inforce the necesty, thereof, but we humbly apprehend what we have observed be fully sufficient. Not a single Field piece is left us, nor ay artillery Men, nor any fixed ammunition.

We have requested Genl. Starke to send down all the Brittish risoners to Poughkeepsie to be thence sent to such place as enl. Gates shall direct. We are your Excellency's most Obt. erv'ts By order of Common Council.

John Barclay, Mayor.

Ab'm Ten Broeck, Brig'dr General.

is Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1453.]

Several Influential Citizens Petition in Behalf of David Dick.

Sir, We the members of the Committee of Safety for the istrict of the manor of Rensselaerwyck beg Leave to recomend your Excellency's mercy the Person of David Dick under Conemnation for being an accomplice in the Robbery of Mrs. Villiams. He is a Poor illitterate & harmless wretch who we ally believe was inadvertantly drawn into this Predicament rough threats of the Party he was with; the woman & Children grieved have Petitioned your Excellency for his Life—which rayer we hope your Excellency will be pleas'd to Grant. We

[No. 1455.]

Hopes to Give the Enemy a "Trimming"—Asks for Ammunition and Writing Paper.

Schoharie 2d June 1778.

ning I had Sent a Party to Cobus Kill of about
Lieut. Coll. Yates at the head of them; after they
some time I received Information of a large Party
to destroy the Settlement of Brakeabeen, upon
them to return their course to the upper Settle-
rie, where I am now Just Going to reinforce them;
nough to meet them I hope to give them a Trim-
munition is not yet arrived for which we are in
hope you will send some provisions of the meat
me some writing paper as I have not so much as
n thereon & here is none to be had.

l Respect Your Humble Servant

Ab'm Wempel.

eck.

; wax or wafers are much wanting.

[No. 1456.]

he Troops Under Colonel Wemple at Schoharie.

he Force under the command of Coll. Wempell at
harie 2d June 1778.

Colonels	Lieut. Colonels	Majors	Captains	Lieut-enants	En-signs	Privates Serjts. & Corp'ls Included
1	1	1	5	9	3	119
1	1	2	5	9	5	190
			2	3	1	16
			1	1		[illegible]
2	2	3	13	22	9	[illegible]

are with Esteem Sir Your Excellency's most Obedient Humble Servants

Bastejan T. Vischer, Stephen T. Schuyler, K: Rensselaer, Philip Van Veghten, Phillip P. Schuylar.

Albany May 31st 1778.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr. &c.

[No. 1454.]

Colonel Klock Expresses Fears for the Mohawk Valley and Asks for Reinforcements.

Canajoharie May 31st 1778.

Sir, I have received three Expresses from Cherry Valley half an hour's time, and I marched with our brigade within four miles of Cherry Valley and I received another Express from Colo. Ballinger, and he Informs me that he had two Indians out as a Scout, and they brought in news that they Expected that the Flatts will be Run off every minute & he wrote to me for three hundred men to his assistance; likewise we have certain Intelligence that Cobus Kill is Run of; likewise they have Sent out a Scout consisting of Twenty five men, and they were all killed to three men, and one of them received three wounds, Sir, the Enemy strikes in so many places, that we are not able to Stand them; and I would be very much obliged to You if You would Send me assistance Immediately on my Receit. Your delay may cause the loss of the River and likewise of the lives of Several hundred of men women and children. Sir, Your compliance will very much obligate Your most Humble Servant

Jacob Klock Colo.

To Abraham Tenbroeck Brigadier General.

Copy.

[No. 1457.]

GENERAL SCHUYLER'S SPY.

His Successful Mission to Crown Point—His Statement Given to Governor Clinton.

Albany, June 2d 1778.

D'r Sir, I have the Honor to inclose your Excellency a paper containing some Information given me by a person, whom I sent as a spy to Crown Point about the Middle of last Month and who returned to me yesterday.

I have the fullest Confidence that what he has related, has been communicated to him, but whether as the real Designs of the Enemy or not I cannot pretend to say.

It is however certain that the Spirits of the Tories in this quarter are greatly raised; that they are full as audacious as ever; that they are seen going to the westward in considerable Numbers, and that some have hinted that an Army will soon appear on Hudson's River.

The Letters to Congress and General Washington contain Copy of the Information—will your Excellency please to forward them by the first Conveyance and, if you think proper, advise General Gates of the Information? I have the Honor to be with great Respect and Esteem Your Excellency's most obedient humble Servant

Ph: Schuyler.

His Excellency Governor Clinton &c.

J. F. of ——— Informs that agreable to his directions he left ——— on the 17th of May, that on the Saturday morning following he arrived four miles north of Crown point, that about noon a gun boat from one of the Ships came on shore, that he went Into It and was carried on board one of the ships, that there were three ships at anchor; that he saw about 7 or 8 Gun Boats, and

two ships or vessels about three or four miles farther down the Lake; that one of the three ships had three masts, the others two; that he was on board of that which had three masts; that she had sixteen guns on board; that he does not know how many the others had; that some of the Gun boats had no great gun but had swivels; that when he came on board the captain asked him from whence he came, and what business he had there; he answered that he came to see If any of his friends were there and to Inform them how their families were; and he told him from what place he came the Captain said he believed he was a rebel and a Spy and would send him to Canada; upon which the Informant told him who they were he wanted to see, and If any of them were on board they would know that he was a loyal subject of the King. That soon after three men came Into the Cabbin and the Captain asked If he knew any of them, he said he did not, but believed he had seen one (pointing to a small man) In Gen: Burgoyn's Camp at Saratoga; that the Capt. then asked If he knew Capt. Jonathan Jones; he said he did upon which the Capt. ordered him to be sent for, that when the person was coming Into the Cabbin the Informant said that was not Jonathan Jones but John Jones; that he shook hands with Jones. The Captain asked Jones If the fellow might be depended upon, Jones said he was a true man and had always been a friend to the King. The Capt. then enquired what rebels were at Skensborough or lake George he answerd from what he could learn about one thousand; he asked what news was Stirring amongst the Rebels; he answered they were In high Spirits that they said Great men were coming over to Settle all matters but that they would not, that they had made an agreement with France. The Captain asked him If he had heard that the army was coming from Philadelphia to New York; he said he had

not; the Capt: replyed they will soon be there; and asked what the Rebels intended by building batteaus at Saratoga; he said he did not know, but believed for carrying provisions to Fort Edward for their men; after a variety of other questions of no Consequence he was sent Into the Steerage were they gave him dinner, Late In the afternoon was sent for Into the Cabbin and the Capt: told him that none of the people he had particularly inquired for were on board any of the ships, but that Jones would Inform them of what he had to say; that he might go back and tell such of the King's friends as might be depended upon to keep themselves In readiness, for that the rebels would soon be In several quarters; That the army from Philadelphia was to come up Hudson's River; that the Indians were to attack the frontiers and that two thousand men Lay at Isle-au-noix ready to Imbark on board of Batteaus whenever the orders should come; that one thousand of these would land near Castletown to alarm the Grants, and the others at Skensborough and march to Fort Edward to keep the Inhabitants In this Quarter In alarm; that the King's friends on the Grants would join those that landed there as soon as they were Informed that the fleet was coming up the river, and the King's friends In this quarter, those at Skensborough. That he saw no Soldiers except about ten or twelve; that there were only nine tories on board the Ship he was on and was told very few on board of the other Ships, that he knew none but Jones and two men who used to work at Jones's; that he thinks he has seen one of the others whom they called Capt. Adams;— that he was furnished with provisions Shoes & Stockings and Set of from the Shipping on Sunday accompanied by two Indians as far as near to Jessup's patent. That the Capt. of the Ships name is Robinson. That the

seemed to have plenty of fresh provisions, that there were Six Indians on board,—further sayeth not.

Albany June 1st 1778. Taken before me

Ph: Schuyler.

[No. 1458.]

GOVERNOR CLINTON AND THE FRONTIER.

The Militia Must Be Depended Upon—Too Many Details for Staff Departments.

Poukeepsie 2d June 1778.

Gentlemen, I received your Letter of the 31st Ultimo this Evening by Express. A copy of the same Letter which it inclosed giving the mellancholly account of the Desolation of the Settlement of Cobus Kill & the Defeat of the Detachments of Continental Troops & Militia there was transmitted me by Genl. Stark and received this Day at Noon. A copy of the former Letter wrote by the Order of the Corporation of Albany requesting me to use my Influence with Genl. Gates to leave a Regiment of Continental Troops in Albany to Guard the public Stores & Prisoners there, with the Papers accompanying the same, was forwarded to him as shall also a Copy of your present Letter with its Inclosure. Tho I Cannot entertain the least Hopes that Genl. Gates will or can send a Body of Troops to the Northward on the prsent Occassion, however alarming, since it is not longer ago than the 30th Ultimo he made a Requisition of 2000 of the Militia of this State to reinforce the Army under his Command in which he was warranted by General Washington's Order, and by a variety of accounts of extraordinary Preparations making by the Enemy in New York & Concurring Circumstances, which indicate an Expedition most against this Quarter & Strengthened by *preparations of the Enemy* to evacuate Philadelphia in which

wait further Orders The Intelligence contained in the inclosed Copies of Letters which I have this Moment received of Depredations committed by the Indians & Tories at Cobus Kill, near Schohary, induce me to urge the getting the Men out with all possible Expedition, and Instead of marching them to Fort Arnold, station them on the Frontiers in such manner as most effectually to protect the Inhabitants from the Ravages of the Enemy till further Orders. I have not Time to write to Colo. Snyder Tho I mean his Regiment shoud be included in this Order. I must, therefore, begg you to transmit him a Copy of this Letter. I am your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

P. S. I think it woud be adviseable to bring off the Disafected Persons, their Families & Effects, on the Delaware which will prevent their Harbouring those in arms, giving them Intelligence, or Supplies of Provision but woud have you advise with Genl. Scott & Colo. Pawling before you attempt this.

Colo. Cantine.

[No. 1460.]

No Harm Apprehended from the Indians at Cochecton.

Cosheton [Cochecton] June ye 2 ad 1778.

To major John Deaker; Sur; these Lins may Inform you tha there has not Ben any harm Don to the inhabitants of this Place, only at the house of Moses Thomas and had we known it, we Should have Don our indevour to Provented it. We Do not Expect any mischef from the Indins at Presant and Shoul be Sorroy to Put the meliti to any Trouble to Come here.

Benj'm Skinner, Joseph Ross, Nathan Mitchel, Gersham Smith, Danl. Skinner, William Conklin, David Young, Lem'u Burehem, Solomon Dacker, John Conklin, Paulus ———*

*Indecipherable.

Gates Throws Responsibility for Reinforcing Stark upon Governor Clinton.

Robinson's House 3rd June 1778.

Sir, Inclosed are two Letters I received last night, by Express, from General Stark, Commanding at Albany. I wish it was in my power to reinforce him, but it is not. I must beg Your Excellency would Issue such Orders, as will enable him to clear the Country of the Banditti that infests it. When you have perused, pray seal my Letter to Genl. Stark, and forward it with your own express. I am, Sir, Your most Obed't Humble Serv't

Horatio Gates.

His Excellency Governour Clinton.

[No. 1462.]

LEAD MINE EXPLORATIONS A FAILURE.

Expert John McDonald so Reports from Work in Ulster and in the Present Columbia and Dutchess Counties.

Marble Town June 3d 1778.

Agreeable To your Excellency's advice I have Continued McDonald in the business of exploring mines. Your Excell'y will perceive by the inclosed reports the progress he has made, From the whole every circumstance Considered I do not Conceive it will turn out to any advantage to Continue the works upon the present plan any longer; indeed the Sum ordered to be expended by the Late Convention in this business is altogether insufficient to prosecute the works to any Effect, and the Sum we have drawn tho not the full amount of the sum we were authorized to draw, is expended. However, I thought fit to Send McDonald to your Excellency *before I discharged* him, that your Excellency might

[illegible] to obtain from him a True State of facts relating to [illegible] business and to advice your Excellency of my determination [illegible] doing any thing further in the matter. I have the [illegible] to be Your Excellency's most Obedient hble Serv't

Matthew Cantine.

His Excell'y Gov'r Clinton.

McDONALD'S REPORT.

Rochester Lead Mine June 3d 1778.

Sir, In Consequence of your advice of the 5th May last have Cleared & Search'd the pit lying next to the Top of the Mine mountain in which could not discover but the Tract of a Vein—have opened the Ground in two different places where it had not before been opened, out of which digg'd 2 ht Weight of ore, the Veins of said places is almost Run out; therefore I Dropt pursuing them. As to my Searching by Blasting with Powder into the Large pit, would be so precarious with Green hands, when my giving a fire to the Matches in the Bottom therein, might, through their Ignorance in the hurry fetching me up, get themselves so Entangled handling the tools, that thereby getting lost both them & I Besides it would be under all Manner of Disadvantage to Sink the Public Money without doing proper Execution, owing to the Water prevailing; but making a form of Communication between the Level & the pit Would prevent all the Obstructions of the Water. At the Top of said pit, Discovered ore in Six different places as are to be seen Yet. And by my Exploring Since, may to hitherto have in its Course of alteration, found out the only plan of Working into this Mine for making the proper tryals of Experiments, if otherwise Declined from putting in Execution my hearty advice in the Behalf of the Public is to [illegible] prosecuting thereat. The 1st tryal is to begin where the [illegible] and in Six places at the Top of the large pit pursuing to [illegible] 12 yards to the South East, 6 feet in Depth & 3 more if Occasion requires.

The 2nd tryal is to form Compleatly a Communication between the Level & the Pit. 3d Tryal is after the Passage is accomplished to drive 12 yds. from the Bottom of Said Pit to the South East upon the Tract of the Vein and keeping the height & Breadth conform to the Vein & advantages for Working. 4th Tryals in four different places & Each to Extend 6 feet in Length, 6 feet in Depth & 3 feet in Breadth with Allowing 120 Days to be Spent by 3 Miners & two Lab'rs and that actually in Searching & opening Where Supposed the Veins of ore do Lye in the Mine Mountain the said four tryals I Allow to be made where Veins are found Crossing the Line where all the other tryals must properly Keep their Courses. Now without accomplishing the above Tryals to its full Extents as mentioned Whether Barren or Yielding ore it will be an Entire Folly to proceed any further in Exploring thereat. Therefore, I shall Express my Utmost advice to you in few Words (that is to say) Before you or any other undertake the Management of working this mine, be first Impower'd by his Excellency the Governor, with Four thousands on purpose to be Laid out in making Experiments here; otherways it is not worth while to Employ Smith & Workmen with Building houses, together with all such Articles as the Mining Bussiness Requires, You know I disdain to Flatter Contrary to my Conscience, Whereas I had many Oppertunity's to do it, but having always given up my Contracts when I found it to be the publics Disadvantage &c:

I have Discharged the Labourers Untill your further Determination Concerning this Mine or any other Mine or Mines. I Expect an answer immediately after your Reading this. I am under all Disadvantages of wanting a house, Garden, Corn, planting, & a Cow Grass because I did not Chuse to wrong the public Wholy to the least of my self Interest. Sir, I am Your Most Obedient And Most humble Servant

John McDonald Miner.

To Matthew Cantine Esqr. at Marble Town.

Concerning the Lead Mine of New Canaan of Kings District, Albany County: *In Febry. 1776*, there I found a Vein of ore

nawaga chirch, having only Seven armed men to Defend that fort where we Now are; all our Militia are Gone to the Relief of those at Cobus Kill, Cherry Valley & German flats, we are only about ten men Strong, in the Church, with about 100 weomen and Children, and Expects to attacked this night By the Best accounts we can Get, for God's Sake Send us a Reinforcement or I am afraid we Shall fall an Easy Prey to the Enemy and we are also much afraid Some of our Neighbours will act against us.

We are Sir your most obed't humb'e Serv't Fred'k Fisher. Zephniah Batchelor, Johanes Vedeen, Thomas Rosmer, C. T. M. Adams, Jelles Fonda,

taken at Albany 4th Jun 1778. Coppy

[No. 1464.]

THE HAMPSHIRE GRANT DISPUTE.

Governor Clinton Advises the Friends of New York to Stand Firm and to Recommend for Office Only on Merit and Ability.

Poughkeepsie June 3d 1778.

Gentlemen: I acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 27th ultimo with the several Papers inclosed in it.

It is with pleasure I find that a considerable Number of the Inhabitants on the Grants, are so Attentive to the Dictates of Reason and Justice, and possessed of so much Spirit as publickly to Oppose the rediculous and destructive Scheme of erecting these Lands into an Independent State. I was in hopes that in consequence of the generous and equitable Terms held out in my late Proclamation, the whole Country whatever Injuries they have received from the former, would be convinced that

›resent Goverment, was Disposed to do them Ample Justice, consequently that they would again have Ackknowledged Iurisdiction.

hat will be the Event of this Affair, it is imposible for me resage, Yet as the Legislature Appear to me, equally Deined "to decide every Case respecting these Contraverted ls according to Justice and Equity without adhering to the t Rules of Law" and to Assert and Maintain their Authority them at all Events, I may Venture to Declare, that should ; Imprudent People still persist in their Ill judged and Unfiable measures that the Consequences will be Serious and ›ncholly, and to them particularly Ruinous and Destructive. ıe Papers contained in your Letter, will be laid before the slature, at their next meeting, but whether they will have to Enter upon the Business is doubtfull, as the Sessions will inue only a few days, and their Attention will be wholly ossed by Matters that respect the Operations of Warr, and, equently, will require immediate Dispatch, but from the very urable Prospects, that have lately presented themselves, I : We shall be in such a Situation, when the New Legislature ›nvened in the Fall, that we may be Able to turn our ghts, to the Settling our own internal Affairs, without pre:e to the common cause, when you may be Asured, that meas will be Adopted to Inforce a due Obedience to Goverment, ıghout every part of the State. In the mean time let me nmend it to you, and every other Person Attached to this ;, to persist in your Opposition, and upon every Occasion to your Testimony against those, unwarrentable Proceedings. ly expect to recieve from Congress a full and explicit Resolu- upon *this Subject, and* have not the least doubt but that

they will Condemn the Conduct of these People, and Consider the Faith and Credit of the whole Continent as concerned in Supporting the Authority of every State, over all its Members.

It would be Adviseable for the Friends to this State, as soon as possible to form a Roll of Judges, Justices, and other Magistrates for the County, and let it be Transmitted to me immediatly to be laid before the Council of Appointment—As we shall in all Probabillity, be utter Strangers to the Persons to be Named in the Roll, and shall Appoint them to the Magistracy solely upon the Reccommendation of our Friends—I hope the Roll will be formed with the Utmost Candour and Impartiality, and that none will be recommended, but only in Consequence of their Merit and Abilities. I am with due Respect

Geo. Clinton.

P. S. It will be well also to make out a List of Persons most proper for Militia Officers in your County & let it Accompany your Civil List.

To Michah Townsand and Israel Smith Esqrs.

A Copy.

[No. 1465.]

Governor Clinton Notifies General Gates of the Fact that Reinforcements Have Been Ordered to Him.

Poughkeepsie 3d June 1778.

Dear Sir—In Complyance wth your Letter of the 30th Ultim I have issued Orders for Detachments from several of the Milit Regiments of this State to reinforce the army under your Co mand equal to your Requisition (including those under Col Graham). But I fear the disagreable Accounts contained in t inclosed Papers, which I presume have already been transmitt to you by Genl. Stark, will call the Attention of great Part of

them to a different Object, especially those ordered from four Regiments in Albany County & the two Regiments in the North End of Ulster, the latter having a Frontier equally exposed to the Depredations of the Savages & the Apprehensions which it appears the People of Albany labour under Will prevent the others marching this Way. The Residue shall Join you with all possible Expedition & in Case of any sudden Emergency which may require a greater Force, be assured no Pains shall be spared to render your Strenghth more Formidable. I am very apprehensive the Savages & Tories who are collected & collecting on our Frontiers will lay waste great Part of the Country so that even those who are not in real Danger will on this Sudden alarm move in & neglect their Farms nor do I believe they will have such Confidence in any Force of Militia we coud send them as to induce them to continue. Yrs. &c.

Geo: Clinton.

The Honble. Major Genl. Gates.

[No. 1466.]

Operations of Captain Smith, an Alleged British Emissary.

Minisink, June ye 4th Anno: Domny 1778.

Then appeared before me John Dacker, Maj., one Benjamin Skinner, a Dweller at Coshethton and Declared upon Oath that the Latter End of May Last a Man who Called himself Charles Smith, Capt.* Came into his house and pulled some papers out of his Pocket and Called upon him to Sign them the which he Desired to have Explained to him and this said Capt. told him that he Could not stand long about it, for his Business Required hast [haste] but, however, he Read it, and also told me that all he Required was, that we Should keep a good Government under the

* See pages 397, 398.

King and not Inform any thing of what he and his Company had Transacted there, nor if any of them Came amongst us not to Inform of them; and farther he told him that if he Did not Sign them, his Life and Estate Stood at his Disposal; and Further this said Capt. Call'd upon a young Lad to sign it, who seem'd to be very Backward about obeying his Commands; also at this Deponents house, and the said Capt. Ordered one of his Men to Shoot him Down if he offered to Run and also Forced him to do it; and Further this Deponent says that as far as he Can Learn, all the men in the place have Sign'd papers, all but those who Run away and Made their scape as Witness my hand.

Benj'm Skinner.

Orange County. Attested before me; John Dacker Maj'r.

[No. 1467.]

Colonel Graham Captures One Emans, a British Subject.

White Plains June 4th 1778.

Dear Governor, The day after Abraham Emans was taken, I was myself with part of the Regiment near the Enemies Lines, where I was very Credably Informed that the Horse he pretended to be in Search of, was at the House when he came off and that it was Suspected he was sent out by Coll. Emerick of the Chasseurs—I have, therefore, Confined him and shall Endeavour to Negociate the Exchange which I think (if Obtained) will be making good use of him.

By Capt. Campbell your Excellency will Receive fifteen Packetts (which just came to hand) directed to Several of the Committees Mark'd Governor Tryon, a Number directed in the Same Manner were Sent by Mr. Hunt two days ago. My kind Regards to Mrs.

Clinton and Family with a Kiss to Little Cornelia, and am your Excellency's Most Obedient Serv't

Morris Graham, Col.

P. S. Intelligence Last Obtained was Sent up by Mr. Hatfield.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor & Commander in chief of the State of New York at Poughkeepsy.

[No. 1468.]

Account of Military Stores at Marbletown, Ulster County.

Stores at Marble Town.

At the School House: 4 Reams of paper, 7 small arms, 1 Bundle of belts; at Mr. Tocks: 10 Boxes of musket Ball 1 Cag of Flints; at Capt. Harsbrooks: 19 Boxes of Cartridges, 1 Box of Cartridge Tools, 6 Barrels of powder; at Solomon Van Wagenens 5 Barrells of powder; at John Anthonys 178 Spears; at Mr. New Karks 1 Hogdshead of paper hatchets and Billhooks, 300 Barrs of Lead, 2 Barrels of powder, 1 Cag of Flints: Widow Beveers 10 Boxes of Ball; at Nathan Smeedus 10 Boxes of Ball; at the Widow Johnsons 2 Boxes of Ball, 2 Barrels Hatchets Tommy Hawkes & Flints, 5 Reams of paper; at Hendrick Johnsons 7 Boxes of Ball, 1 Cag Hatchets; at Capt. Dewits 200 Speers; at Benschootens 10 Boxes of Ball, 1 Cag Flints; at Mr. Cools 1 Box of Cartridges.

Colo. Lasher tells me we have 1160 Spears which offer the Continent try to get Continent to Change Musquet for Cannon Powder.

[No. 1469.]

Governor Clinton Sends the Statement of General Schuyler's Spy to General Gates.

Poughkeepsie, 5th June, 1778.

Dear Sir, I send you inclosed a Copy of a Paper I just now received from Albany containing Information given by a Person who was sent out as a Spy to Crown Point about the Middle of last Month & returned the 1st Instant. I believe the fullest Credit may be given to the Informant's Account so far as it respects himself, but whether the Real Designs of the Enemy have been communicated to him must as yet remain uncertain. There are some Concurring Circumstances which in my Oppinion gives it a Degree of Credibility such as the Spirit of the Tories on the Northern Frontiers being greatly elated, considerable Numbers of them going to the Westward supposed to Join the Indians. The Appearances of an Intention of the Enemy to Evacuate Philadelphia their Movements and Preparations in New York.

I have nothing else new from the Northward & not a Word from any other Quarter. Believe me Yours Sincerely

G. C.

Major Genl. Gates.

[No. 1470.]

DEFENCELESS TRYON COUNTY.

Colonel Klock Urges the Governor to Adopt Measures for Protection—The Governor's Reply.

Palatine, in Tryon County, June 5th 1778.

Hon'ble Sir, Upon Notice from Colo. Gansevoort, Commandant at Fort Schuyler that Joseph Brant (a Mohock Indian of Note) was on his way from Achquage to make an Attack on the German Flatts, I marched a considerable Part of the Militia to Cherry Val-

thinking it more probable that Brant's Attack would be on t Settlement, and left Colo. Bellinger with his Regiment at the ·man Flatts for its Defence.

Your Excellency has I doubt not already been informed that : Enemy to the Number of between 300 & 400 came to Kobels ll where they burnt nine Houses; at which Place some Conti- ntal Troops and the Militia from Schohary attacked the Enemy, t through Inferiority of Numbers were obliged to retreat with : Loss of 16 Men killed and five or six burnt in the Houses. ter which a Party of the Enemy came to Durlach a small Settle- ·nt near Kobels Kill where they plundered one House only. ı Tuesday Afternoon Messrs. Matthew Warmood and Peter Sits th Officers were killed and scalped by the Enemy on their way ›m Cherry Valley, to which place the latter had been sent Ex- ess. Yesterday Morning I received undoubted Intelligence by ; Scouts that Brant had the Day before retired from Kobels lls probably to Unadilla upon which I discharged the Militia cept about 150 Men whom I left in Cherry Valley to be relieved ·ekly by the same Number.

I should be happy to draw your Excellency's Attention a little this frontier County, as I beg leave to represent that, unless a ›dy of Troops is marched directly to Unadilla in order to drive : Enemy from thence and destroy the place, the Enemy will nstantly make such Depredations upon the Settlements that it ll of Course (which in some Measure is already the Case) neces- ate the Inhabitants to leave their Places and prevent, not only ·m but all others to pay that Attention to their Farms which is necessary for their Subsistence; besides, considering that this unty is one continued Frontier, exposed on all Sides to the roads of the Indians, it is impossible to defend any Part of the

out Settlements, as it is out of our Power at most Times to obtai any Notice of the Enemies Motions till they are ready to strik their Blow. The Blow being struck before the Militia can com up, they leave the Place and go to another.

Unadilla has always been and still continues to be a common Receptacle for all rascally Tories, and runaway Negroes. This being the Case I intreat your Excellency to afford us all the Relief in your Power as we have Reason to expect that otherwise we shall be in one continued Alarm all the Season. The Consequence of which is very alarming to us.

June 6th. Since writing the above I received Intelligence by Express from Colo. Fisher who was left at Cachnawage for the Defence of that District, that the Enemy had appeared to the Northward of Johnstown, where they made Prisoners of fourteen of the Inhabitants & carried them off. Upon which I marched down immediately with the greatest Part of my Regiment.

I had not been three Hours at Cachnawage untill I had an Express that the Enemy had broke in near Stone Arabia & appered in the upper Part of Palatine District near the Little Falls.

Upon the whole, Sir, from all the Information I have been able to obtain, the Enemy are divided into at least five or Six Parties who appear & attack us in different places, to divide and distract us; So that by endeavouring to defend all, we are oblige to weaken ourselves in such a Manner as to be able to defen Nothing.

In this deplorable Situation I must again intreat your Excellency for all the Assistance in your Power. I have the Honor be Your Excellency's Most Obt. & Hble. serv't

Jacob Klock

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

June 11th 1778.

Sir, I have received your Letter of the 5th Instant. I am unhappy to hear of the Distresses of the Frontier Inhabitants of Your County, and you may rest assured that I will exert myself to the utmost of my Power to afford them Protection ag't the Depredations of the Enemy. I have procured Genl. Gates's Consent, that Alden's Regiment continue to the Northward & he has called for the Aid of the Berkshire & Hampshire Militia for your Relief. I have ordered Genl. Ten Broeck to call into actual Service one fourth Part, or any greater Proportion (if he shall conceive it necessary) of his Militia for that Purpose; And as I agree with you that the only effectual Means that can be pursued to afford durable Safety to the Inhabitants is to march against this Banditi to the Places they assemble & Rendevouz, & route them, I, therefore, have wrote to Genl. Tenbroeck and the Commanding Officer at Albany advising it to be done, & I trust your Militia will exert themselves on this Occasion in the accomplishment of which they are so deeply interested. The Force which can be collected will be amply competent for the Purpose. Your Most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

[To Col. Jacob Klock.]

[No. 1471.]

Fredrick Fisher and Volkert Veeder Report to Governor Clinton that 300 to 400 of the Enemy Are Approaching from the North.

Caughnawaga Church June 5th 1778.

By this your Excellency is informed that I Received your Letter near nine O'Clock this morning, and, Sir, I was then Busey to send you our late Itelligence and Scituation; we was Informd Last Evening by a good freind on our Side, that The Enemy was

[illegible] certain Accounts that John A. Putnam and twelve Fam[illegible] more, all living on my Lands, in that Quarter are taken and [illegible] more with them.

John Reese's wife says that the Enemy had a list with them who they were to go to and destroy. We formerly wrote you that our militia were dispersed in different Quarters, say Cherry Valley &c. a few of them are now returned, but so Fatigued that we have not yet been able to send any Scouting parties out to reconnoiter the Enemy's motion; we have had but about twelve Old men with us and some of them sickly, all our Mohawk Indians are missing, Except four Old men and are of Opinion (and almost sure) they are with this party. We wrote to Coll. Klock, where he was with the Militia for assistance, but our letter to him was brought back to us without shewing to him through a mistake. We sent this letter with the one we received from Genl. Ten Broeck to John E. Van Eps, to be forwarded to him by Express, that most the convenient side of the River to Travel in; where this mistake arises from we can't yet learn, but was oblidged last Evening to send off another Express with the same Letter to the said Coll. This was the Occasion of our not having any relief sooner, as we will be Oblidged to have our militia together for some time and Mr. De Graaf has no provision nor Orders to procure any, You'll, therefore, please to send us Orders to provide for the militia during their stay, You'll please forward this Letter to the Commanding Officer in Albany and General Ten Broeck, as I have no time to write more at present, or any part of the Letter you think most proper to send them. I believe Coll. Fisher has wrote to Genl.

[No. 1472]

THE ENEMY REPORTED 500 STRONG.

Telles Fonda and Mr. Van Horne Appeal to Henry Glen—They Represent Their Helplessness and Charge Treachery on Neighbors.

Caghnawaga, 5th June 1778.

Dear Sir, I Received your letter by Express, with the Letter from General Ten Broeck, and am very sorry it is not in your power to send us relief in our miserable situation, but I hope you will with all possible speed, send us all the assistance in your power; as I am much afraid we will soon be attacked by the Enemy; Last night about 12 O'Clock John Little from Johns town came to the Church, and Informed us that he heard sundry persons of that place say, that the Enemys place of Rendesvouz was at the Fish House at Sacondaga, and by the best Accounts they are about five Hundred Strong, and a great many of our Neighbours amongst them, who have been actually seen acting against us. The above mentioned Little's Father in Law is a suspected Tory, and says that all the people at Caghnawaga and all round these parts are to be taken and their Houses burn't this day or at night. We have so many different Accounts to this purpose and from good authority that I make no doubt of the Truth thereof, but would take up too much time to mention the whole, You may depend that they have taken Charles Marinus and Son, George Coch and Son, Johannis Eckler and Family and John Reese; and all their Houses plundered and every thing destroyed. Isaac De Graef our Commissary, the aforesaid John Little, Thomas Butler and John Higgens have been there and seen all the above. A certain Henry Kelly's wife from Sacondaga, is now come into us and says that her Husband was shot dead at her side and the mills burn't there. I have also

of the Smaller Settlements. The militia that is with us is quite out of Patience; and are afraid they will leave us; and was we to be attack'd in the place where we have made a Stand, Sorry we are to think so but more to Say it, there is not over 30 men that would Stand their Ground, this, Sir, is our present Situation and without help the Chief part of Tryon County must fall into their hands. Therefore, if no help can be Sent us to make a Stand, I hope You will be so kind as to order a proper force up here to Enable us toEscape with our families and bring off the Cattle, So that they may not fall into the Enemies hands; but if possible would rather have a body of men that would Enable us to drive them out of these parts, as for any further particulars we will not Intrude on Your time by writing, but refer You to Coll. Harpur, the bearer, and he can give you a General detail of our proceedings here. We are, Sir Your h'ble Serv'ts

Sam'l Campbell Major.
Sam'l Clyde.

Cherry Valley June 5th 1778.

To Genll. Stark or next in command Albany.

Copy.

[No. 1474.]

Association of Exempts at Marlborough, Ulster County.

We the Subscribers being under the Age of Fifty-five Years, who have held Civil or Military Commissions and have not been Reappointed to our respective Ranks of Office, or being between the ages of Fifty and Fifty-five Years, Do hereby severally Engage that we will respectively, on all Occasions Obey the Orders of our respective Commanding Officers, and will, in Cases of Invasion or Incursions of the Enemy, or Insurrections, March to Repell the

Enemy, or Suppress such Insurrections, in like Manner as the Enrolled Militia are Compelled to do; So, as we shall not, when Called out in Detachments be Annexed to any other Regiment or Company, or be under the immediate Command of any other than our own Officers.

Witness our hands this 6 day of June 1778.

Samuel Edmonds, Samuel Stratton, John Polhamaes, Caleb Merritt, Daniel Purdy, Solomon Waring, Alexander Cropsy, Willem Wygant, Willem Mosher, Michael Wigant, John Smith, James Major, John Wolsey, Thomas Orr, Humprey Merritt, Jonathan Brown, Rinear Low, Daniel Thurston, Thomas Bosworth, Thomas Cole, Zophall Perkins, Joseph Wells, Alexander Lane, John Viel, Daniel Wolsey, Joseph Blomer, Nathaniel Beek, Thomas Merritt, Isaack Cropsie, Henry Ter Bush, Nathaniel Vyatt, John Stratton, Micarie Lewis,

We the Subscribers being a Majority of the Company of Associated Exempts, enrolled on the other part of this Sheet of Paper Do hereby recommend to the Honourable the Council of Appointment for Officers of said Company

Samuel Edmonds to be Captain Nathaniel Vyat First Lieutenant John Stratton Second Lieutenant and Micarie Lewis Ensign of the said Company

Witness our hands this 6 day of June 1778:

John Polhameus, Michael Wigant, Calep Meret, John Smith, Jeames Mager, John Woolsey, Samuel Stratten, Humphery Merritt, Solomon Waring, Jonathan Brown, Rinear Low, Danel Thuston, Thomes Cole, Zophall Perkins, Joseph Wells, Alexander Lane, John Viel, Daniel Wolsey, Joseph Blomer, Thomes Merritt, Nathaniel Beek, Isack Cropsie, Henry Ter Bush, William Mosier, Danel Purdy, Thomas Boosworth, Thomes Orr, Willem Wigant.

New Marlborough in Ulster County in the State of New York

Honoured Sir,

Pursuant to the Late Millitia Law we, the Exempts of Captain Ransom, Woods, Cases, and Smiths Companys, met June the 6 Day, 1778, and formed ourselves into a Company, and unanimously have Chosen for our Officers the following persons to wit;

Samuel Edmonds Captain Nathaniel Wyat firs Leiftenant John Stratten, Second Leiftenant Micaiule Lewis Ensine and at their Request I send these Lines and Shall be Ready to obey Orders Exquise Haste from yours to Serve in

Samuel Edmonds.

To the Right Honourable George Clinton Esquire Governor Commander In Chief of the State of New York.

[No. 1475.]

Returns of Colonel Snyder's Regiment.

A Return of the Regiment of militia Commanded by Coll. Johannis Snyder, as Returned in Classes by the Commanding officers of the Severall Compsnys of said Regiment 6th June 1778.

Officers Names	No. of Classes	Total Men Summary	on Duty of Each Company	Employ'd building Kingston
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	9	11
[illegible]	[illegible]			[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]			[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	10	3
[illegible]	[illegible]	12	9	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	10	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	10
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	4
		[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

[No. 1476.]

NINETEEN KILLED AT COBLESKILL.

And Colonel Wemple Reports to General Ten Broeck that the Survivors Are Destitute.

Schohary, June 6th 1778

Dear General, I have taken the Inclosed Affidavit* since my last you; the Amunition is safe, arrived yesterday afternoon, Es-rted by Major Taylor and Capt. Groot with about Ninety men. have Scouts out to all Quarters; the man whose Affidavit is in-osed I sent to a Branch of Susquehana River where it is sup-osed the Enemy are assembling. Soon after him sent two more that quarter after they return, shall give you further Informa-on of the movements of the Enemy.

I have Buried the dead at Cobus Kill, which was 14 in number; ound five more burnt in the ruins of the House of one Yurry Vainer, where the Engagement has been; they were Butchered n the most Inhuman manner; burnt 10 Houses & Barns Horses, Cows, Sheep &c. lay dead all over the fields.

My Regiment has found out that the other Regiments have rafted and every fourth man is come out, which makes them un-easy. If you thought proper, should give them the same chance, but should ¾ of my men go home, my force would be small, too small I fear to stop the enemy in their Career. I shall leave a guard of 70 men at the lower part of Schoharie, all the rest of my force I shall keep at the upper part of the Settlement. Please to send by the bearer 2 quire of paper. I am D'r Genl. Your Ob't Hum. Serv't

Ab'm Wempel.

Copy)

*Affidavit not found.

Schohary 6th June 1778.

D'r Sir, I forgot to mention in mine of this date that the people of Cobus Kill, whose houses and Effects are burnt, only came off with what they had upon their Backs, have applyd to me for provision. I should be glad to know wether they can draw out of the public Stores or no.

The Militia complain much that they cant live upon 1 lb. of Bread & 1 lb. of Beef. I was with the Commissary—he tells me it is General Orders not to Issue more for a Ration. I should be glad if you will mention it to the General and let me know. I am D'r Sir Your Ob't Hum. Serv't

Ab'm Wempel.

To General Ten Broek.

(Copy)

[No. 1477.]

APPROACHING FROM THE NORTH AND WEST.

The Enemy Divided into Several Parties in Order to Attack Several Places at the Same Time.

Caghnawage June 6th 1778. 11 o'Clock A. M.

Sir—I have this moment received undoubted Information by Express that a party of Indians were seen on the North side of the River nearly opposite the late General Herkemers, & that a party of the Enemy had broke into a Settlement called Dillenburgh near Stone Arabia & were destroying that place.

From the above & what already has been wrote you—you see that the Enemy are divided into several parties & attack us in different places. It is impossible for us to defend the County, for whenever we march from one place to defend another, the places we leave are attacked, in this distracted situation we once more

all upon you for the assistance we owe each other, and intreat ou to send us what Assistance you can as soon as possible.

You will please to Communicate this to General Stark. Inlosed you have an Affidavit of a man who was taken by the nemy, for your farther Information. Your Hu'b Serv't

Jacob Klock Colo.

To General Ten Broeck.]

Copy)

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ryon County SS

Personally appeared before us Jelles Fonda & Abraham Van Horne Esqrs. two of the Justices of the Peace for said County, Hendrick Warmwood, who being duely Sworn on the Holy Evanelist of Almighty God deposeth & saith: that on Tuesday the econd of June Inst., as he the dep't, with several others were reurning from working on the Roads, that he & Edward Conner & Michael Carman, were taken prisoners by a party of the Indians about four miles from Sacandago; the rest of the men who were a little behind the above mentioned persons escaped being taken; this party of Indians Consisted as near as he could Judge to be about two hundred in number, all painted, who took him, the dep't to the late Sir Wm. Johnson's Summer house at the Fly at Sacondaga, where the deponant was about two hours with them, and then released him, the said dep't on account, that he was lame and could not walk; & they also released Michael Carman & Edward Conner; & further the dep't sayeth, that he saw John A. Putman, Andrew Bowman, Joseph Scott, John Harman, John Reese, Charles Marinus, George Kock, Augustus Eckler, all prisoners with the Indians; and the said Eckler was released who informed the said deponant that the party of Indians who took him, say about two hundred, was not the third part of their number and also informed him the deponant that the Indians had twenty Cannoes made, and that he also said, that if a Thousand of the Militia were to *go out* against that party of the Indians,

they could not stand against them and further the dep't sayeth not.

his
Hendrick X Warmwood
mark

Sworn before us this 5th June 1778.

Jelles Fonda
Abr'm Van Horne } Justices

(Copy)

[No. 1478.]

TO THE NEW YORK DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

Governor Clinton Calls Attention to the Rebellious Spirit in Vermont and to the Dangers Along Our Frontiers.

Poughkeepsie June 6th 1778.

Gentlemen, I wrote to Congress on the 7th of April last requesting "an explicit and unequivocal Declaration of their Sense" with respect to the Conduct of the People of the State of Vermont and expected eer this to have received a Resolution upon the Subject.

From the enclosed Papers* which were lately transmitted to me from that Quarter you will readily perceive we cannot long remain quiet; for, independant of every other Consideration, Justice requires that our Friends should be supported, and consequently we must very soon have recourse to coercive measures: I am however not without hopes that a Resolution of Congress not only disavowing, but expressly condemning the Proceedings of these People, might still have a good Effect and prevent the disagreable Consequences that will attend a Determination of the Controversy by force of arms. Many of their Adherents in the eastern States, as I am credibly informd, since my Procla-

*See pages 363-367.

tion, no longer espouse their Cause, but admit that as the present Government of this State has testified a Disposition to do them Justice, they ought to submit to its Jurisdiction. I must, therefore, intreat you to press this Business in Congress and to embrace every Oppertunity of calling their Attention to a Matter of the utmost Importance to this State, and in which I conceive the Continent to be greatly interested: For it is evident that a Scheme so destructive of all kind of Government and so dangerous in Precedent must effect every other State and must have a dangerous Influence on the public Credit of the whole Confederation.

Lest it might not have reached you I enclose the Constitution of the State of Vermont. The Application of the Principle contained in the 17th Section of their Bill of Rights (even admitting it to be true) to their Case ought to be particularly attended to.

I have also transmitted to you Copies of Letters I received, informing of an Irruption of the Indians and Tories upon our western Frontiers which you will please to communicate to Congress. As there are few continental Troops stationed in that Quarter I have ordered into Service part of the militia for the Defence of the Inhabitants.

I cannot conclude without again recommending it to you to obtain from Congress a Determination upon the Vermont Business as soon as possible. Until we are favored with their Sentiments we shall not be able to determine what measures we ought to pursue ourselves.

Our Legislature meets next week, and possibly among others, ther will be the Subject of their Deliberations and could, to receive an Answer from Congress before the

gates of New York were inattentive to her Interests. But it must be considered:

1st That it is easier to lead men than to drive them at all Times & consequently that more may be hoped in general from gentle & perswasive measures than from Force.

2ly That Dispatch was of much greater Importance on this Occasion than on most others.

3ly That unanimity was very desirable & particularly an union of the Eastern States.

I confess I am not so sanguine in my Expectations from this Committee as some others nor indeed do I think that any step which could have been taken would have been effectual. This one promises to be most so. Those People appear to me to be determined on establishing Independence and I doubt whether they will be diverted from it but by Force. This is a Remedy which cannot at present be exhibited nor will it at any Time be agreable to see Americans embruing their Hands in the Blood of each other. On the whole, therefore, it must certainly appear that lenient measures were most proper to be pursued.

This Letter will go by some one of the committee who are Colo. Allee, Doctor Witherspoon, Mr. Elsworth, Mr. Edwards & Mr. Root; the two former are now here, the three latter are at Home. Colo. Allee is a Delegate of this State appointed by the present assembly. As I am told that there are some Persons who pretend to beleive many Reports which have been circulated to my Disadvantage I should not be sorry that a Conversation were turned towards that Subject. I am respectfully, Sir, Your most obed't & humble serv't

Gouv'r Morris.

[To Governor George Clinton.]

[No. 1481.]

A List of Exempts.

List of persons exempted from militia draft by being employed in rebuilding houses &c. destroyed by the enemy in October, 1777.

Persons exempted from ordinary militia Drafts on being employed in rebuild'g the Houses destroyed by the Enemy last fall:

For Mrs. Ten Broeck at Rhinebeeck: Wilhelmus Post, Justin Merrick, William Waldron, John Hannion.

May 21st 1778. for Mrs. Judge Livingston: Carpenters in Colo. Livingston's Regt: Jno. McBane, Bartholomew Hendrickson, David Bellinger. Masons in Colo. Graham's Regt: Benj'n Westfall, ——— Hollowson.

June 3d 1778, are exempted from the present Detachm't ordered from the militia: John Holt, Wm. Copp, Nich's Power.

Danl. Hapenor Manager of Mr. Jno. R. Livingston Powder mill exempted June 7th from the present & future ordinary D't of militia while actually employed untill further orders.

[No. 1482.]

STARK AND TEN BROECK DOING WELL.

But Governor Clinton's Presence Desired in Albany, Owing to Scarcity of Troops and Precariousness of the Situation.

Sir, Your Excellency's favour of the 3d Instant I have Received. In a former letter I mentioned to your Excell'y that I had ordered into actual Service one fourth part of Eleven Regiments of my Brigade, but omitted the names of the Colonells, hey are, Whiting, Van Ness, Robt. Van Rensselaer, Van Alstyn, ill'n Van Rensselaer, Wemple, Schuyler, Nicoll, Van den Bergh, an Bergen & Van Schoonhoven; the City or Coll. Lansing's egim't, Knickerbacker's, McCrea's & Van Woert's, I have not

mount Guard in the City, the three Last to be Ready to Act in the northern Quarter if necessary. I sent your Excellency a Return of Col: Wemple's Detachment at Schohary, since which about 100 more of the militia have joined Him; Yestarday 214 of my militia marched from this for Johnstown, Inclosed you have the Return. The Remainder of those ordered into Service, as soon as they come in, I shall send to Tryon County. The militia come on very Slow Indeed.

On Consulting General Stark he advises the Detaining the Detachments of the Regts. of Whiting, Van Ness & Robert Van Rensselaer, ordered by your Excellency to Fish Kill, I have accordingly ordered them to be in Readiness to march to this place at an hour's notice, Intending, as you advised, to Relieve those already out from these Regiments, as also those from the other Regts. After some short Period I had also order'd ¼ part of Col. Livingston's Regiment to this place, but with Genl. Stark's approbation, have Countermanded the order & have Urged him to send to Fishkill the Detachment by you ordered.

The Inclosed are Copies of Papers I have Rec'd. However short the Enemy may be of the number Reported, they are Sufficient to Inspire Terror and Commit murder & Depredations in too many of our defenceless Settlements, It is the misfortune of our people in General, to sink under the approach of the Indians. In many places they begin to Fly and from every Quarter call aloud for Help. I Really fear the Country will be greatly Injured by this alarming Invasion, & it Requires the Speediest & most vigorous measures to Stop its Progress; the loss of the Cattle alone which have & must fall into their hands must be Distressing to the Publick & the Ruin of Individuals in great [illegible] seems Inevitable, Under these Circumstances I sub-

mitt it, whether it will not be advisable for your Excellency to Repair to this City & give the necessary orders for the Preservation of the Country. General Stark is not only a Stranger but without Continental Troops, tho I am Convinced he is heartily disposed to do every thing in his power for our Security—he has Requestd 100 men from Berkshire & 100 from Hampshire but they Cannot be Expected for some days. I am kept in Continual hurry & fatigue but shall do the best I can. I am with great Respect Your Excellency's most Ob'dt & hum'le Servant

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

This day personally appeared before me one of the Justices of the peace, Hendrick Matthias, who being duely Sworn on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God, deposeth and saith—that his Son in Law David Brass had wrote a Letter to his Wife wherein he tells her, that he is in a good place, and that she must have good Courage, and that she should not go further from her father's house than to Migheel Brown; & further said that one Howard told last Thursday, that the Enemy was within two hours travel from his house, and he might see them if he choosed; and that the people from the Fishkill to Harpersfield had laid down their arms—and said Matthias further said, that Hannes Kneeskern told him, that all the Tories that were gone from Schohary were all with the Enemy except Niclaas & Philip Treymeyyer; those were with Butler, and that Frederick Bouks wife told him this morning, that next Saturday the Enemy would attack Schohary, and that the Enemy laid no further than what he could go and come back in a day and a half.

His
Hendrick H M Matthyas
mark

Sworn before me Shoharie June 4th 1778.
William Dietz Justice.

Copy

[No. 1483.]

THE INVASION OF TRYON COUNTY.

Albany County Unsettled by Robberies, the Uncertainty of the Tories and Discontent of the Militia.

Albany, 7th June 1778.

Sir, We acknowledge the Receipt of your Excellency's Letter of the 2nd Instant with its enclosures, and thank you for the care and attention you have paid to the getting a Body of Troops to secure the Frontiers of the Northern and Western Parts of our State.

Melancholy as the accounts transmitted in our former Letter were, they are now the more so by an actual invasion of Tryon County by a Body of about 200 Indians &c. The Ravages by them already committed near Sacondago (an account of which will be transmitted your Excellency by Genl. Ten Broeck), in addition to that of Cobus Kill, has so struck the Militia of Tryon County that few of them can be Collected together, the principal part of them being employed to secure their Families from that Barbarity which is to be apprehended from a wanton, Cruel and Savage Enemy.

We have just now received information that a Party of about five hundred of the Enemy have lately landed at Gillilands Creek. and that immediately upon their landing, they divided into two Parties, one of which is supposed to be that at Sacondago; and where the other will strike is uncertain, but it is to be feared they are gone farther westward.

The Robberies daily committed in this County, and the dangers the Friends to the Country apprehend from the disaffected, renders the turning out of the Militia dilatory and uncertain. But we presume were your Excellency to favour this part of the State

your presence it might revive the Spirits of the People and a good Effect.

e inclosed Letter from Lieut. Coll. Yates* will inform your llency of the Inhumanitys committed by the Enemy at Cobus

We are with the greatest Respect and Esteem Your Ex- ncy's Most Ob't Serv'ts By order of Common Council.

John Barclay, Mayor.

s Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State of York.

[No. 1484.]

r Decker Gives Further Evidence of the Actions of the Tories Near Minisink.

Oreng County Minnisinks June 8th 1778.

nerable Govener, I am under the Needsety of Trobleing you a few Lines to Inform you With what Denger I am informed we are in, by tow of the Inhabetents Casheton that has Made ascape from Some of the British Troups and Tories that is ob [Club] in them parts, Distroying the afects of the people is True to the States; one of the Said inhabetents Came to o Inform me with the Deanger; I thought it My Deauty to e him to what he had Seen, as there was no Megistrat in place, I being a officer in the State, Sir, I have Given you y of what he has had to Say. June 1 the Deponent, Jacob nins, Being Deuly Swore on the holy a Vengles, Saith that as Comming Down the River with Moses Thomas and after Said Tomas had Leaft his house, that a Capt. that, Said he ig to the British Troops with Seven or Eight Men Came to Said Tomas hous, and Took his Grean, [grain] and plundered house and Destroyed his furniture, Broke his Dores, and

*Not found.

windows and killed his hoges, wich the Said Deponent Saieth, that he met them with the Said Tomas Grain, and hoges; when met with them the Capt. of party asking him if he was a inhabetent, I told him I was; then he asked My name; Told him My name Jacob Simmins; then he asking if I had Seen that Damed Rible Brother of Mine; I Told him that I had met with one Powel; I Did not Know whether he was Reble or not; then he asked Me what I thought of My Self, that he Understood Since that he Came to that place that I was aposing Goverment; he understood that I was Troblesom fellow and went Back and foret, Telling of Tales and fauls Reports, and that he Understod that I was a Evendence a Gainest a friend to Goverment and Strove to herm him; he asked me wherther I Entended to Live there or not; I told him I had planted Corn and intended to Live there; he Told Me I Might if wod Keep Quiet and Mind my Beauness and Sine his peper wich I was oblidg to Dow, to Get away from him and further the Deponent Saieth not Honerable Govener, I Can inform you that there is a number of the Inhabetents Gone from the Minnisinks to Joyn that Clob, and I Understand that a Number of the Inehabetents at Cusheton is torys and is Gethering all the Endins that the Can Get to Joyn them; therefore, from Evry Curnstance that I Can find we are in Great Deanger. I hope your houner will Consider the Distreed Condision of the Inhabetents wich will be Distroyed in Short Time without Some Relife. I am honnerable Govener Your friend to Serve

John Decker, Megor.

For the Honneable Gorge Clintin Govener, Nuw Yorke.

[No. 1485.]

GOVERNOR CLINTON UNABLE TO GO TO ALBANY.

The Meeting of the Legislature, Expected Hostile Movement from New York Require His Presence at Poughkeepsie.

Poukeepsie June 8th 1778.

Sir, I enclose you a Letter which I wrote this morn'g in answer to yours of the 3d Inst. Your favor of the 7th with its inclosures together with Letters from the Mayor, Genl. Schuyler & Mr. Duane on the same Subject were Deliv'd to me this Evening.

I immediately wrote to Genl. Gates acquaint'g him of the Distresses of the frontier Inhabitants in Tryon & your County, & at the same time sent to him, by his Honor, the Lieut. Gov'r, the Mayor's & your Letters with their enclosures, for his perusal & requested him to inform Congress & Genl. Washington of the Contents. Could I believe that my Presence in Albany would be of any real advantage & the Situation of affairs in this Quarter would anyways admit of it, I would most chearfully repair thither. My personal Influence on the militia in your Quarter, where I have but a small acquaintance, cannot be equal to yours who reside among them & have extensive Connections. Your authority to call them out is amply sufficient & I trust they are disposed to obey your orders. The acc'ts we Daily receive from New York are, that the Enemy continue their preparations for an Expedition which it is believed will be ag't this Quarter; This has induced Genl. Gates to request my Assistance in the Field. The militia (your Brigade excepted) have no other Genl. Officer to command them; and of course I am under the necessity of issuing my orders to each respective Colo. on every Occassion. Under these Circumstances, I cannot see how it is possible for me, consistent with the Duty I owe to the State at large. to

this part of it at present and leave the militia without a gen'l command.

Add to this, that tomorrow is the Day fixed for the meet'g of the Legislature at this Place which renders my attendance here absolutely necessary. Under these peculiar Circumstances I must, therefore, in this Critical Juncture beg, that you will exert your Influence & authority in getting out the militia for the protection of the Frontier Inhabitants agreable to my Orders for that Purpose, and you may rest assured that I will use my utmost Influence to procure you some aid of cont'l Troops if any can possibly be spared. In all probability a few Days will determine with certainty what the Intentions of the Enemy at New York are, & if they should not be against this quarter I shall immediately set out for Albany. I am &ca.

Geo. Clinton.

Brig'r Genl. Ten Broeck.

[No. 1486.]

Governor Clinton Requests General Gates to Notify Washington of the Situation in Albany and Tryon Counties.

Poughkeepsie 8th June 1778.

Dear Sir, I have this Moment received a Letter for you from Albany which I now forward to you by Lieut. Gov'r Cortland. I suppose it contains the latest Accounts of the Depredations committed by the Enemy on the Frontiers of Albany and Tryon Counties, but least it shoud not, I have delivered Mr. Van Cortland the several Papers transmitted to me by Genl. Ten Broeck on that Subject, which when you have perused you will please to return to him for me. The People in that Quarter are much alarmed at their Situation & whether the Enemy are as strong, or the Danger as great as is apprehend[ed] or not, it will occa-

n great Distress to the Inhabitants & a Desertion of that Fertile untry, unless their Fears are speedilly removed by a respectle Force appearing in that Quarter for their Protection. I ve given Genl. Ten Broeck orders to call out as many of the ilitia as with the advise of Genl. Starke he may conceive necesry for that Service, but I find few have yet taken the Field. I ish to have these Accounts transmitted to Congress & Genl. 'ashington & will rely on your doing it. I thank you for your etter of this Date with the Inteligence it contained and am, ear Sir, in great Haste Your Most Obed't Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

To Gen. Gates.]

[No. 1487.]

COLONEL WILLIAMS AS AN ORGANIZER.

istributed Governor Clinton's Orders and Reports that a Party of the Enemy Landed at Crown Point and Proceeded Westward.

White Creek, June 8th 1778.

Dear Sir, I received yours of the 4th & 25th of May ult. and ave been carrying it into Execution with all Possable Dispatch. sent Major Armstrong to Collo. McCrea, with a Copy of your rders. He informed me that the Inhabitants Could not as uch as inform him who was their Commander, but at length ound one of the Captains, to whom he gave the orders in order o be forwarded to the Commander, and I have not heard any hing from them since.

The major part of the militia is Classed agreable to the new ct; the others are to be Classed in a few Days; at which time roper Returns will be made. I have taken Care to see their rms in *good order, giving to* some the arms formerly belonging

to the Disaffected; & lent to others, arms which I have bought out of my own Pockett; as to fines I never received any.

I receved a Letter Signed by Jno. Morin Scott, the Contents of which fills me with astonishment. I am exceedingly Sorry to hear of such Disentions, at a time the Enemy are about attacting us. Capt. Allen who left our advance Guards on the Grants last Thursday informes me, of 21 Boates, heavy loaded with men. Landed at Crown Point Four day before he left his post, and are gone to the westward but his Scouts could not learn their Rout. If they attact our Guards I know not what will be the Consequences; the people here are very uneasy about it, particularly as we are Called down to the Legislature. I expect to leave this to morrow, & if Possable to See Collo. McCrea in order to gett out the men—however I shall make no more stay than a day or two (except the Enemy heaves in Sight) by reason of my attending at the Meeting of the Council. It much surpriseth me, that men who never appeared in the field in defence of their Country, dare to presume to Dwindle Gentlemen Character in such manner or that they should in the least be Countenanced.

We are very unfortunate in this place; our County Divided our District Divided by Two Contending Parties; it seems the Disaffected hath two many friends.

I am informed That Mr. Rowan Says, you told him General Schuyler had no authority for ordering the Inhabitants off with their Cattle & Carriages—and that as soon as the Civil Law takes Place The people who hath plundered the Tories will be oblidged to be accountable for it. This hath alarmed the people in Such manner, Together with these proceedings against the Court Martial, that ware the men Called out, one half would not go. Could not these proceedings be Stop'd till a more leasure

time. Suppose the Enemy presents themselves before I leave this side Albany, could I be Justified if I did not return back—on the other hand Censured for not appearing at Poughkipsie. I can assure your Excellency, that on my return with a party at White Creek when the Enemy were at Stillwater I called the persons who had staid, Contrary to orders, together, & told them, in case they would behave themselves for the future, I should look over what was Passed and also would assist the Inhabitants who were oblidged to move away with the necessaries of Life at the Old Price, to which they consented, but afterwards refused & have Screw'd the Inhabitants that were well affected to the last farthing, So that they would not let them stand in the Ranks till they were Tried for their Disobedients of orders, Those who were fined, I informed them if they would Enlist, their fines would be omited; and if the Son enlisted, the father's fine would be omited, & if any one was fined, having no armes, they had libety to put their fines towards Purchasing armes and what was wanting I would give them.

As to pay Rolls, Those officers who left their Companies before their Discharge, I ordered the Volunteer officers who hath been in Commissions to take their place, and have been paid out of the money so drawed for the Standing officers in the militia. Upwards of Thirty never was returned which hath Draw'd pay & a number I gave some five Dollars from that to Ten of the money Drawed for the Delinquents. I have proper Receipts, from most all I paid, by which it will appear in what manner the money hath been Disposed off; some money is yett on hand which the people have not as yet called for, notwithstanding I gave public orders for their attendance. These proceeding hath been carried on in many Regimental pay Rolls or I should not

have done it. I am, Sir, with respect, your most obedient & most Humble Servant

Jno. Williams.

P. S. I must beg you will inform the Council that, I will be at Poughkipsie next Saturday, if the Enemy do not appear; if they should appear I must go out with the people should the Consequences be what they will, and I trust if that should be the case, the Evidences will be ordered to be examined in this County by persons appointed by your Excellency & Council.

The Tories was all whip'd in Camebridge, but nothing is mentioned about that, These that are fined, would have been served so here, was it not for my Insisting to the Contrary.

His Excellency Governor Clinton, Poughkepsie.

[No. 1488.]

Governor Clinton Sends Instructions to General Ten Broeck Relative to the Handling of the Situation and the Militia.

Poughkeepsie 8th June 1778.

D'r Sir, I received yours of the 3d Instant. I have suggested to Genl. Gates the Propriety of continuing Alden's Regiment in your Quarter & I believe it will be permitted to remain there at least for a Time. It is impossible for me to determine on the Number of Men necessary to be kep out for the Protection of the Frontiers, or along the Places most proper to station them, as in these Maters we must be governed by the Strenghth of the Enemy (of which I have not as yet received any Account to be relied on) and their Movements. And as you are near the Scene of action & will be able from Time to Time to receive the necessary Information, I submit them, therefore, to your own Judgment, assisted by the Commanding Officer at Albany & have only to advise, that while

the One Hand you are attentive in keeping out a competent
ce for the present Service, you will carefully avoid Unneces-
ily distressing the Militia by calling out a greater Number than
ıll be absolutely necessary.

am Your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

g'r Genl. Ten Broeck.

[No. 1489.]

PRESIDENT LAURENS FORWARDS THREE LAWS.

r the Establishment of Our Army, that Subsistence Money Be Extended to Officers of the Militia and Laying an Embargo on Certain Articles.

York Town 9th June 1778.

Sir, I had the honor of addressing Your Excellency on the 23d
to. by Barkley.

The present will be accompanied by the under-mentioned Acts
Congress.

1, of 27th May—for an Establishment of the American Army.

2, of 6th June—for extending to Officers of Militia subsistence
oney in lieu of extra Rations.

3, 8 June—Laying a general Embargo on certain articles of
rovision—this measure appears to be so absolutely necessary as
aves no doubt but that each State whence Exportation might
herwise be made, will immediately adopt & strictly observe the
ct—had this bar been laid to furnishing the Enemy with provi-
on twelve months ago, St. Augustine would probably have been
bandoned, the West Indies driven to great necessity & possibly
ır Invaders from the Continent.

I shall add a printed Paper containing Lord Abingdon's Speech
protest in the British House of Lords which does honor to Mr.

		Pay per month.
Serjeants,	each	10
)rum Major,		9
'ife Major,		9
ns and Fifes,	each	7 1-3d.
orals,	each	7 1-3d.
vates,	each	6 2-3ds.

of the field officers to command a company.

Lieutenant of the Colonel's company to have the rank of Lieutenant.

II. ARTILLERY.

battalion of artillery consist of

		Pay per month.
olonel,		100 dollars
ieutenant Colonel,		75
Iajor,		62 1-half
Captains,	each	50
Captain Lieutenants,	each	33 1-3d
First Lieutenants,	each	33 1-3d
Second Lieutenants,	each	33 1-3d

ymaster,	to be	25 dol.	in addition to their
ljutant,	taken from	16	pay as officers
ar. master	the line.	16	in the line.

Surgeon,		75 dollars.
Surgeon's Mate,		50
Serjeant Major,		11 23-90ths.
Quartermaster Serjeant,		11 23-90ths.
Fife Major,		10 38-90ths.
Drum Major,		10 38-90ths.
Serjeants,	each	10
Bombardiers	each	9
orals,	each	9

		Pay per month.
72 Gunners,	each	8 2-3ds.
24 Drums and Fifes,	each	8 2-3ds.
336 Mattrosses,	each	8 1-3d.

III. CAVALRY.

That a battalion of cavalry consist of

			Pay per month. dol.
Commissioned.	1 Colonel,		93 3-4ths.
	1 Lieutenant Colonel,		75
	1 Major,		60
	6 Captains,	each	50
	12 Lieutenants,	each	33 1-3d.
	6 Cornets,	each	26 2-3ds.
	1 Riding Master,		33 1-3d.

Paymaster,	to be	25 dol.	in addition to
Adjutant,	taken from	15	their pay as officers
Quar. master	the line.	15	in the line.

1 Surgeon,		60 dollars.
1 Surgeon's Mate,		40
1 Sadler,		10
1 Trumpet Major,		11
6 Farriers,	each	10
6 Quartermaster Serjeants,	each	15
6 Trumpeters,	each	10
12 Serjeants,	each	15
30 Corporals,	each	10
324 Dragoons,	each	8 1-3d

IV. PROVOST.

Resolved, That a Provost be established, to consist of

		Pay per month.
1 Captain of Provosts,		50 dollars.
4 Lieutenants,	each	33 1-3d.

		Pay per month.
1 Clerk,		33 13d.
1 Quartermaster Serjeant,		15
Two Trumpeters,	each	10
2 Serjeants,	each	15
5 Corporals,	each	10
43 Provosts or Privates,	each	8 1-3d.
4 Executioners,	each	10

This corps to be mounted on horse-back, and armed and accoutred as light dragoons.

Resolved, That in the Engineering Department three companies be established, each to consist of

		Pay per month.
1 Captain,		50 dollars.
3 Lieutenants,	each	33 1-3d.
4 Serjeants,	each	10
4 Corporals,	each	9
60 Privates,	each	8 1-3d.

These companies to be instructed in the fabrication of field works as far as relates to the manual and mechanical part. Their business shall be to instruct the fatigue parties to do their duty with celerity and exactness; to repair injuries done to the works by the enemy's fire, and to prosecute works in the face of it. The commissioned officers to be skilled in the necessary branches of the mathematics; the non-commissioned officers to write a good hand.

Resolved, That the Adjutant and Quartermaster of a regiment be nominated by the field officers out of the subalterns, and presented to the commander in chief or the commander in a separate department for approbation; and that being approved of, they shall receive from him a warrant agreeable to such nomination:

That the Paymaster of a regiment be chosen by the officers of

the regiment out of the Captains or Subalterns, and appointed by warrant as above: the officers are to risque their pay in his hands: the Paymasters to have the charge of the cloathing, and to distribute the same.

Resolved, That the Brigade Major be appointed as heretofore by the commander in chief, or commander in a separate department, out of the Captains in the brigade to which he shall be appointed:

That the Brigade Quartermaster be appointed by the Quartermaster General, out of the Captains or Subalterns in the brigade to which he shall be appointed.

Resolved, That two Aids-de-Camp be allowed to each Major General, who shall for the future appoint them out of the Captains or Subalterns.

Resolved, That in addition to their pay as officers in the line there be allowed to

An Aid-de-Camp, 24 dollars per month. Brigade Major, $24. Brigade Quartermaster, $15.

Resolved, That when any of the staff officers appointed from the line are promoted above the ranks in the line out of which they are respectively appointable, their staff appointments shall thereupon be vacated:

The present Aids-de-Camp and Brigade Majors to receive their present pay and rations.

Resolved, That the Aids-de-Camp, Brigade Majors, and Brigade Quartermasters, heretofore appointed from the line, shall hold their present ranks and be admissible into the line again in the same rank they held when taken from the line; provided that no Aid, Brigade Major or Quartermaster shall have the command of any officer who commanded him while in the line.

Resolved, That whenever the Adjutant General shall be appointed from the line, he may continue to hold his rank and commission in the line.

Resolved, That, when supernumary Lieutenants are continued under this arrangement of the battalions, who are to do the duty of Ensigns, they shall be intitled to hold their rank and to receive the pay such rank intitled them to receive.

Resolved, That no more Colonels be appointed in the infantry; but where any such commission is or shall become vacant, the battalion shall be commanded by a Lieutenant Colonel, who shall be allowed the same pay as is now granted to a Colonel of infantry, and shall rise in promotion from that to the rank of Brigadier; and such battalion shall have only two field officers, viz. a Lieutenant Colonel and Major, but it shall have an additional Captain.

May 29 1778. Resolved, That no persons hereafter appointed upon the civil staff of the army shall hold or be intitled to any rank in the army by virtue of such staff appointment.

June 2, 1778. Resolved, That the officers herein after mentioned be entitled to draw one ration a day, and no more; that where they shall not draw such ration, they shall not be allowed any compensation in lieu thereof.

And to the end that they may be enabled to live in a manner becoming their stations,

Resolved, That the following sums be paid to them monthly for their subsistence, viz.

To every Colonel, $50 per month; to every Lieutenant Colonel, 40; to every Major, $30; to every Captain, $20; to every Lieutenant and Ensign, $10; to every Regimental Surgeon, $30; to every Regimental Surgeon's Mate, $10; to every Chaplain of a brigade, 50.

Resolved, That subsistence money be allowed to officers and others on the staff in lieu of extra rations, and that henceforward none of them be allowed to draw more than one ration a day.

Ordered, That the Committee of Arrangement be directed to report to Congress as soon as possible such an allowance as they shall think adequate to the station of the respective officers and persons employed on the staff.

Extracts from the Minutes,

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

In Congress, June 6, 1778.

RESOLVED, That the Resolution of Congress of the 2d of June, relative to the Subsistence Money to be allowed to officers in the Continental Service, be extended to all Militia or other Troops which may from time to time be called into the Continental Service, or which may be raised in pursuance of a special Resolution of Congress.

Extract from the Minutes,

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

In Congress, June 8th 1778.

Whereas the exportation of provisions from these States hath occasioned much difficulty in procuring supplies for our Armies: and by the capture of vessels concerned in such exportation, the armies of the enemy have been freed from distresses, that would have greatly embarrassed their operations: and whereas for the more speedy [illegible] and to embarrass and distress the enemy [illegible] it is absolutely necessary an embargo should be immediately laid to prohibit such exportations:

and as, from the distance of the States from Congress, & the different periods of assembling their legislatures, the good end of such embargo would be wholly frustrated, should Congress not proceed to impose the embargo; therefore

Resolved, That an embargo be, and it hereby is laid, to prohibit the exportation of wheat, flour, rye, indian corn, rice, bread, beef, pork, bacon, live stock & other provisions from any of these United States from and after the tenth day of June instant, until the fifteenth day of November next, unless sooner revoked by Congress. Provided that this embargo shall not be construed to prevent the taking on board such provision as shall be necessary for the stores only of any ships or vessels of war or others trading to & from these States.

Resolved, That it be earnestly recommended to the respective States to take the most effectual measures for carrying the foregoing resolution into immediate execution.

Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson secy.

[No. 1490.]

Colonel Hopkins Asks for the Exemption of Aaron Hill.

Amenia June 9 1778.

Sir, At the Request of Mr. Aaron Hill, the Bearer, I woud Inform Your Excellency that he has £300 or more worth of hides in the Lime &c. is Single handed, and Cant get any man that understands tanning to take Care of them; if he Should march for the month in the present Detachment, the Leather will certainly be Ruined, which is others Property; would, therefore, Recommend him to your Excellency as an object for a Special Exemption from Military Duty. I am S'r yours &c.

Roswell Hopkins, Colo.

To his Excellency Goven'r Clinton.

[No. 1491.]

Governor Clinton Orders Colonel Hopkins to Send a Detail for Guard at the Poughkeepsie Jail.

Poughkeepsie 9th June 1778.

Sir, I must request that out of the present Detachment of Militia under your Command you send to this Place a Subaltern & 20 Men including Non Commissioned Officers. They are to relieve an equal Number of Colo. Du Bois Regiment now as a Guard over the Prisoners confined at this Place; of Course you will Return them on Command; they are to draw their Provissions from the Store at Fishkill, therefore it will be best that the bring for one Week with them. It is necessary that the Officer & Men be active at least trusty considering the Nature of their Business. Capt. Conkling tells me that a Number of the Men in the present Class are out as Teamsters & are led to believe by the Quarter Master that they are to be exempted which is not to be the Case for any longer Time than they are actually in that Service. I am your most Obed't Serv't

To Colo. Hopkins. [G. C.]

[No. 1492.]

THE MILITIA TO MARCH TO FISHKILL.

George Clinton Suspects a Number of Tories will be found Among them.

Poughkeepsie 9th June 1778.

D'r Sir, I am favoured with your Letter of yesterday. The Contents with respect to Major Hamil will be duely observed; I coud wish, however, to be favoured with the additional Evidence the Genl. has received of his Guilt, to lay before the Commissioners as they may doubt the Propriety of continuing him long in Close Confinement upon bare Suspicion nothing else hitherto has appeared to them.

The Militia ordered into actual Service from this County are to march this Day or Tomorrow Morning. By my Orders, they are to rendevouz at Fishkill & there wait for further Orders which I expect they will receive thro' you. As these Drafts are indiscriminately made, doubtless you will have a proportion of Tories among them. I woud, therefore, recommend a Seperation of the Clean from the unclean. The later will answer better for Fatiegue at the Fort than in the Field. Colo. Hopkins is to command those from this County with whom I wish you to advise on this Subject. They are to be relieved at the End of the Month after their arival at the Place of Rendevouz by an equal Number if necessary. Those from Ulster & Orange are to rendevouz at the Fort under Colo. Malcom.

I have a Number of Spears belonging to the State which if wanted at the Fort as I think they will the Continent I believe may purchase. Your Most Obed't Serv't

G. C.

[To Col. Malcom.]

[No. 1493.]

Returns of a Detachment of Colonel Allison's Regiment on Fatigue Duty at West Point in March and April.

A Return of a Detachment of Col. Allison's Regt. who served as a Fatigue Party at West Point in March and April 1778.

	Col.	Lt. Col.	Maj.	Capt.	Subalt.	Staf	Sergt.	Corp.	Dr. & fife	Privates.
Field Officers		1								
Capt. Sweazy				1	2	1	3		1	25
Capt. Cortright				1	1			1		10
Capt. Jones				1	3		3			18
Capt Jackson				1			3	3		20
Capt. Little				1			2			12
		1		5	6	1	11	4	1	85

Goshen June 10 1778. Benj. Tusten Lt. Col.

[No. 1494.]

A Small Requisition.

Sir, Deliver to Colonel Lewis Dubois or his Order Two Pieces of Oznabrigs for the use of his Regt. taking a Rec't & charging the same to the Regt.

Given at Poukeepsie this 10th June 1778.

Geo: Clinton.

This Oznabrigs is to serve for Pockets, Lining &ca. for cloath'g making for the Regt.

Mr. John Henry, Commiss'y &ca.

[No. 1495.]

Governor Clinton Writes General Gates in Regard to Captain Machin's Pay Roll.

Poughkeepsie 10th June 1778.

Dear Sir, Capt. Machine who (with my Advice) was appointed by Genl. Putnam to the Management & Direction of fixing the Chain & sinking the Cheveaux Defrize for the Obstruction of Hudson's River, called upon me to examine & Certify the Pay Rolls & abstracts for the Artificers imployed in that Service, which he tells me, understood was necessary in order to their obtaining a Warrant for Payment: I have Inspected the Pay Rolls & tho I have no Reason to doubt, but that they are just & ought to be paid yet as I have not had the immediate Superintendance of that Business. The Accounts can derive no Authenticity from my Certificate & no Returns have been made to me of the Artificers from Time to Time imployed. I conceive there [illegible] an Impropriety in my Certifying them. I flatter [illegible] hine must have missunderstood you & a Cer- [illegible] his having been duely appointed to the

Management of the Business is all that was required for if any Certificates are necessary in the present Case they were equally so for the Payment of the artificers imployed at the Fort, yet these accounts & other Expences incurred there have been paid without any.

The Artificers imployed under Capt. Machin have large arrearages due & are thereby greatly distressed and discontented. I am perswaded it will promote the Service to have them paid off and if when I shall have the pleasure of seeing you & conversing on this Subject it shoud appear that there is any thing Necessary & proper for me to do in this Matter it shall be done.

I thank you for your Letter of the 9th Instant. I cant see what more you coud possibly do for the Frontiers. Genl. Ten Broeck has my Orders to call out as many of his Brigade as he, with the Advice of Genl. Stark may conceive necessary, to repell the Incursion of the Enemy & aford Protection to the Inhabitants. The fourth Part of two Regts. in Ulster County are also ordered for this Service. This will of Course diminish the Reinforcement I meant for you which on the approach of the Enemy I must endeavour to make good from some other Quarter.

Yours Sincerely

Geo. Clinton.

[To Gen. Gates.]

[No. 1496.]

Stephen Barns Assistant Commissary of Purchases Complains to the Assistant Commissary of Issues.

Sir, As I am embarressed by Engrossers from the West side of the North river; If there Cannot be a stop made to that trade, I shall not be able in three weeks time, to furnish you with one Pound of Beef. Last week, thirty head of Cattle were drove off

where I had been and encouraged the people to put their Cattle up to fat, and I hear that they are a buying this week again.

You Can stop their Cattle at the Ferryes; all Cattle that have not the Continental brand on them belong to these engrossers.

We have long had bad beef; I have taken pains to encourage the people to fatten their Cattle, that we might have the beef made better for being fatter. But if these men Can't be stopt, we must go without any beef; they have raised the prices of beef more than 30 pr. Cent. last week.

Whether they Carry their Cattle to store, or where I know not; but they have no rite to Purchase any Cattle on the East Side of the North river: I shall rely that you will use your Influence to stop their trade. Remain your Most Obedient Serv't

Stephen Barns A. C. P.

June 10th 1778.

To Jonathan Fitch A. C. Issues. (Copy.)

[No. 1497.]

Returns of a Detachment of Colonel Peter R. Livingston's Manor Regiment.

A Return of Men that have been on Duty out of the tenth Regiment of the County of Albany Commanded by Colo. Peter R. Livingston since the first of January 1778.

	At Albany for 4 Months	At Easton for 9 Months	At Fishkill for One Month.	Hired in the Standing forces	Total
Captain Joseph Elliot	31				
Delivered to the Care of Andries Hermanse Capt. one of the Superintendants		36			
Capt Leonard Ten Broeck Ordered out 60			60		
Hired by Persons in the Regiment				48	175

Manor Livingston 10 June 1778.

Sir, The above is a Return of the Men as Ordered out, most which have been in Service; some few was excused being ling and some dismissed at Albany. There is about 80 Ordered it with Capt. Ten Broeck; some have marched and others have ave to go home and join the Corps at Fish Kill, being unpro-ded; about 20 dismissed as Invalids; few or none have arms, ere not being 80 good arms in the whole Regiment, near 150 ms having been takeing away by Orders in the beginning of e War, and near 50 more by persons out of Claverack and the astren adjacent Districts and never accounted for. Your Very umb. Ser't

Peter R. Livingston.

o Robert Benson, Esqr. Aid de Camp to His Excellency Gov-ernor Clinton, Poughkeepsie.

[No. 1498.]

Governor Clinton Advises An Expedition to Attack the Enemy at Unadilla.

Poughkeepsie 11th June 1778.

D'r Sir, By the inclosed Copy of a Letter* from Genl. Gates you will learn that Alden's Regim't is to continue in your Quar-ter and the Measures which are taken to get an additional Force for the Security of the Western Frontiers. I am perswaded, however, that no Force that can be collected will be able to afford full Protection to the Inhabitants unless the flying Party by whom they are distressed can be routed at the Places where they usually rendevouz. This I am informed is Unadilla. I woud, therefore, advise an Expedition against that Place if you

*Not found.

& Genl. Stark to whom I have wrote on the Subject shall judge it practicable. The Force you will soon have in your Quarter including a Proportion of your Militia & that of Tryon County will be fully competent for the Purpose. I am Sir with great Regard Your Most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Brig'r Genl. Ten Broeck.

[No. 1499.]

Makes the Same Suggestion to General Stark and Offers to Send Reinforcements.

Poughkeepsie 11th June 1778.

Dear Sir, I am informed that Unidilla is the place on the Western Frontier at which the Tories and Savages who have lately committed Hostilities on the Inhabitants assemble & rendevouz. An Expedition, therefore, ag't them at that Place if practicable and attended with Success woud in my Oppinion be the only effectual Means for giving Security to the Inhabitants against the future Ravages of this flying Party. I have written to Genl. Tenbroeck on this Subject & desired him to advise with you on the propriety of this Measure & in Case you approve of it, I have directed him & Colo. Clock of Tryon County to furnish such Proportion of their Militia as with such other Troops as can be collected shall be compotent for this Service. I am Sir with great Regard Your Most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

The Hon'ble Brig'r Genl. Starke.

[No. 1500.]

Association of New Windsor Exempts.

At a meeting of the Exempts of New Windsor Precinct, the 11th Day of June 1778, agreeable to an Act of the Legislator

for the State of New York, directing that all the Exempts from Sixteen to fifty five years of age shall asociate themselves into Companies, we the Subscribers, being mett agreeable to said act, do recommend Mathew Dubois for Captain, James Burnet for first Lieutenant, and John L. Moffat for second Lieut. Praying that his Excellency the Governor of the State of New York would be Pleased to send Commissions to the aforesaid Persons.

Nathan Smith, Alex'r Denniston, John Hallock, Isaac Hodge, George Johnston, John Lee, Jacob Wiggons, Jno. McClaghry, James Duboice, John Burnet, Sam'l Ginnings, Jam's Denniston, John Davis, William Edmonston, Thos. Burnet, Thos. Belknap, Isaac Stonehouse, James Horton, Henry Palmer, Robt. Smith, John Elliot, Benj'n Youngs, Corn's Wood, Jed'h Belknap, Nath'l Liscomb, Hugh Humphry, James Waugh, Robt. Bukannan, James Bell, Silvaneus Dozenbury, John Galloway, John Dill, James Guibson, John Finly, Caleb Dill.

I certify the above to be the Association and Recommendation of the Persons whose Names are thereunto set this 25th June 1778.

Mathew Dubois.

To His Excell'y George Clinton, Esqr.

[No. 1501.]

BRANT AT HIS OLD TRICKS.

Ambushes a Party from Fort Schuyler and Escapes With Scalps.

Fort Schuyler 11th June (10 o'Clock P. M.) 1778.

May it please your Excellency; A very melancholy Affair, that has this day happened here induces me to write to you, sir, by this opportunity as possibly the Intelligence might not come so early by another Hand. Myself and Ensign Spore had parties on Fatigue to Day; my party was employed in the Garrison &

Mr. Spore's (which consisted of 26 men) was providing Timber for the Works, between the place where my misfortune happened and Fort Bull about 3 miles from the Garrison: He had two Waggons in his party, one of which belonged to an Inhabitant of the German Flats who drove it and had his son with him a Boy of about 14 years of age. Mr. Spore sent this Waggon off with a Load, and with it was one Jeremiah Smith a Soldier who with the Boy and Waggoner made 3 persons all unarmed. The Waggon had not proceeded far before it was attacked by a party of Indians, supposed to [be] headed by Brant, that Infernal Savage that lately massacred the Inhabitants of Jacobus Kill. Smith was shot thro' the Body, Tomahawked & Scalped and must have died immediately. The Waggoner was shot through the Flesh of the left arm near the Shoulder and the Bullet came out at his Shoulder Blade; after which (as Dr. Woodruff supposes by the appearance of the Wound) he was scalped, and then Tomahawked on the back part of the Scull, which is fractured so bad that the Dr. has little hopes of his recovery, tho he still retains his senses. He immediately when the party came to the place inquired for his Son. The son run off while these Hell Hounds were busy scalping the Father and escaped unhurt. There was two parties sent out immediately after them but to no purpose; they returned this Evening without any Intelligence. These Indians (as is supposed) have been lurking about here some Time—three Days ago two of them was discovered by one of our Centinels as he said but was not then believed. I am suspicious that more of the like barbarity will be perpetrated at this place as these Infernals seem to watch every opportunity to murder us. I am sir your most Obedient

J. Gregg.

[To Governor George Clinton.]

[No. 1502.]

Copy of Lieutenant Colonel Elihu Marvin's Commission.

'he People of the State of New York by the Grace of God Free
l Indipendant.

'o Elihu Mervin Esquire Greeting: We reposing especial trust
l confidence, as well in your Patriotism, conduct and loyalty,
in your valour and Readiness to do us good and faithful ser-
e Have appointed and constituted, and by these presents Do
oint and Constitute you the said Elihu Marvin Lieutenant
onel of the Regiment of militia in the County of Orrange,
ereof Jesse Woodhul Esquire is Colonel.

'ou are therefore to take the said Regiment into your charge
l care as Lieutenant Colonel thereof and duly to exercise the
cers and Soldiers of that Regiment in Arms, who are hereby
nmanded to obey you as their Lieutenant Colonel and you are
o to observe and follow such orders and directions, as you
ll from time to time receive from our General and Commander
Chief of the militia of our said state, or any other your superior
cers, according to the Rules and discipline of war in pursu-
e of the Trust reposed in you: and for so doing, This shall be
ir Commission for and during our good pleasure, to be signi-
l by our council of appointments. In testimony whereof, we
ve caused our Seal for military Commissions to be hereunto
ixed. Witness our trusty and well beloved George Clinton
quire our Governor of our State of New York General and
mmander in chief of all the militia, and Admiral of the Navy
the same, by and with the advice and Consent of our said Coun-
of appointment, at Poughkeepsie—the twenty first day of

February in the second year of our Indipendance, and in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy Eight.

Geo: Clinton.

Passed the secretary's Office June 12th 1778. By his Excellency's Command.

Abr'm B. Bancker, D'y Secretary.

[No. 1503.]

Peter R. Livingston Suggests a Company of Rangers for Protection Against Robbers.

Manor Livingston 12 June 1778.

D'r sir, I Rec'd your Orders by Capt. Ten Broeck and am exceeding glad you have sent a party of men up to force the Drafts down, as without there is no makeing them sturr. I have given only two men that were very unwell, leave to stay home till such time they were better than to join their Corps. There were 10 or 12 permitted before I came home by Majors Ten Broeck & Jansen, for the same reason to stay till they were better, the rest so as to make at least a full Company of 60 men; hope to Comple to go down as unless these two Classes are forced to attend or made examples of the next will not do any duty in rotation; you may depend I shall leave no stone unturned to force every Soul to go. Have immediately Issued Orders to the Adjutant to Order out all the Companies and have Ordered the Capts. to Inform the Drafts that if they will immediately attend, they will not be punished, but if they oblidge us to apprehend them they must expect the rigour of the law.

We have these two days past had out the greatest part of the Regt. scouring the woods for Robbers; three very considerable ones have been Committed upon my nearest neighbours and every

man fears it will be his turn next. I wish the Govenor would permit a Company of Rangers to keep in this District; it would be of very great aid to the Cause and keep our Enemies in good order; wish the Govenor may see it in that point of light. The Speaker will explain matters to him on that head. Your Verry Hu'le ser't

Peter R. Livingston.

[To Governor George Clinton.]

[No. 1504.]

MILITIAMEN AVOID THE DRAFT.

Colonel Peter R. Livingston Submits His Complaints to Governor Clinton.

Hermitage 13 June 1778.

Dear Govenor, In Obedience to your Excellency's Order, the one fourth of my Regiment being the Class No. 1 and 2, were immediatly Ordered out together with such Officers whose duty it was to take the first tour of Service; altho' every man was duly warned to attend only 21 marched from the Parade with Capt. Ten Broeck; upwards of 80 men, besides the four officers were in this first tour, two of which on Acc't of their real illness I permitted to stay till they were better, upon their promissing to join as soon as they were better. Ten or 12 more were excused by the Majors, Ten Broeck & Jansen by the advice of their respective Captains; all the remainder being upwards of 60, were ordered to join the next day on the Post road. Sorry I am by Capt. Ten Broeck's return to find so very few have attended. By the orders now Rec'd by Capt. Ten Broeck and by the Aid he has with him, hope to be able to compleat his Company. Your Excel'y *may rest Asshured* we shall exert ourselves to the utmost

to make them all go; no man shall be excused by me except the above two on acc't of their Sickness. Have ordered every Capt. to call out his Company and to acquaint the Classes whose tour of duty it is now to go to Fishkill, that your Excellency will forgive them if they immediately attend; if not and they continue obstinate that they must expect to be dealth with according to Law and to have every one apprehended and sent down under Gaurd.

Our District has been in continual allarm by the repeated and dairing Robberies that have been Committed around us. I have had out the greatest part of the Regim't these two days but to no purpose. I am obl'd before I can git any man to sturr a step, to become security for their pay without which can git no man to leave his house. If your Excelle'y would let us have a Company of Rangers to keep in our Woods it would have a good Effect on our bad fellows and make them do their duty when called upon and prevent in a great measure any future Robberies. Mr. Moore one of my nearest neighbours that was robbed told me that they informed him that in 14 days they would see something else.

We are fearful of an attact again; in short, hope the men that are now here may do some good. There goes one Wandle Yager that has been taken up by this party and is in one of the classes, that has constantly refused to do any Duty whatever; he was drafted for a four months man but refused going and has been concerned in many bad schemes, and unless some example is made of him, others will act in the same way; he has a universal bad Charecter. Your Excellencye's Verry Humb. Ser't

Peter R. Livingston.

To His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr &c.

[No. 1505.]

General Gates Directs that Ensign Man be held Until Regularly Exchanged.

Peeks-kill 13th June 1778.

Sir, When I waited on the Hon'ble Maj'r Genl. Gates I acquainted him of a Vessel going to N. York in a few Days with a Flagg, in which Vessel Ensign Man was to be sent, The General appeared surprised, and desired that he should be detaind untill he is regularly Exchanged, for reasons the General does not chuse to furnish Mr. Man, but from what I can learn he has been a bitter & inhuman Enemy. I am Sir Your Most Obed't & Most Humble Serv't

John Adam D. C. of Prisoners.

His Excel'y Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 1506.]

Mr. Delamater Requests the Command of the Rangers and Pictures a Reign of Terror.

Sir; our times Seems vary dangarous at prisent by what your Excel. will find by the bearers of these; authoritey Seems at an and; field officirs Seems wont Justisess; we have none; Committies are at an and; what will become of us Is unknown; that thare is a plot among the tories is without Doubt by the tratnings thay Give out and Seing bodies of them under arms in the woods, and thair Robbing and plundering of our Neighbours makes us without Rest as your Excellencie will find by the bearer of these; and if thare is not a Spedy Relieve I am afraid we will all fall a pray to them, Espascially Such as are Some thing forward for the Cause of the Contry. If it Should please your Excellency that thare Should be Raisd a Company of Rangers for defence of these parts, and appoint me as Commandar I Should be will-

ing to Serve my Contery; Since I am hare a Liver [here as living] at prisent I have not by hend; I Decline building in Sopes this Season; however your Excellency will find by these man, that Relieve is much wanted. I think us Ivery night in Danger; we dare not lay us Down at Rest withtout having our arms at our heds; these man are two of the Sufferers who have been Robbed by them; Good, honest man and of Good Correcter. I hope your Excellency Shall Send us a Spedy Relieve. Sir, I Remain your very humble Sarvent

Abr'm J. Delamatter.

East Camp June 14, 1778.

P. S. Sir, Remember me to mis Clinton and mis Tappen; Dr. Cock Sends his Compement to your Excellency and Spouse and mis Tappen.

[No. 1507.]

Captain Rockefeller Threatens to Resign.

Districk German Camp Juny 14the 1778.

Sir, I take these Opportunity for let his Excellency Nown who that goes in my Compaynie; whene I give Ordre for Duty for safety of other Business & the beets Man & Strengest Torie whene se goes to our Colonel, so after se lawght over my & thou no Duty & she bin free & I can nothing & the Wighs bin ofroated there over, & I can thou nothing; when fore take I the Opportunity for let his Excellency Nown, that when no ist found other Way for the Tories, so I bin Obliged for give my Commission over. I am Your Excellency very humble servant

Thyll Rockenfeller Capt, in the 10
Rigement in the County of Albany.

For his Xelency George Clinton, Governor of the State of New York.

[No. 1508.]

Colonel Wynkoop Complains Because His Requests Have Been Unheeded.

Coeyemans, 14th June 1778.

D'r Gov'r, I take the Liberty to Inform you that I have wrote at Sundry times to Genl. Gates & other Commanding officers at West Point, Giving a State of the Works carrying on here, with an acco't of what articles I am in want of to compleat the Gun Boats, Such as anchors, Cabbles & Sail Cloth, which are not to be had in Albany, at the same time requested to be favour'd with instructions about the number of Boats I am to build here, & what to do with those finished from time to time, to which the Least attention has not been Given, nor have I in consequence thereof been fav'd with the Least information. Two Boats are finish'd having each a 6 pound'r in her Bow, the Largest Cannon to be had in Albany; five more now Busy in Laying their platforms, the Keel Laid of another, and Timber for about Two more. I shall be happy in reciving the needful orders, with information how I am to procure the articles wanted to compleat the Boats. I am with great Regard, Sir Your most Obed't Serv't

Corn's D. Wynkoop.

Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 1509.]

THE ONEIDA INDIANS ALONE FRIENDLY.

Futile Effort of General Schuyler to Induce the Six Nations to Join a Conference.

Fort Schuyler June 15th 1778.

Sir, I have just received an authentic Account that the Belt some time since sent to the Cayugas and Senecas to call them to the *proposed meeting* at Onondago was returned last Satur-

day; what reply the Senecas made to it, I have not been able to learn. Most likely they took no notice of it, as of several others which have been sent for the same purpose; the Cayugas replied that they could not attend the meeting nor did they assign any reason for their Conduct, Yesterday the Onondagos sent an Express to Oneida with this Account and further desired the Oneidas and Tuscaroras to repair immediately to Onondago, that they might consult together about returning the Commissioners Belt at Albany, The Oneidas replied that if they were determined to make no further Efforts to bring the other Tribes to a sense of their Duty but to return the Belts, it would be needless for them to go to Onondago, but proposed their coming as soon as possible to Oneida where they might confer upon the Subject and thence proceed to Albany; the Substance of Mr. Butler's late Conference with the Indians at Kanasadaga was to desire them to attend him on his proposed Expedition which the Senecas refused to do, because so large a party of their people were now down in our Country. He has however collected a considerable party of Indians of various Tribes with which as he gives out, he is determined to join Jos'h Brant upon the Frontiers of this Country. It is supposed he is by this time as far on his way as Onohogwage.

A Cayuga Chief who commands a party now with Brant has sent an Express to the warriors of his Tribe informing them that he is Surrounded by the white people and in danger of being cut off, unless they afford him a speedy relief, This message it is expected will very soon bring a considerable reinforcement to Brant's party. The Oneidas expect nothing but that a vigorous war will be commenced between the United States and the Six nations immediately upon the return of Com-

ssioner's Belts, and as Congress have resolved to give them the assistance and protection which has been promised, they g the Commissioners to think of some means for their safety her by removing them down among our Inhabitants or march- ; a body of men beyond them, but this they mean to submit your Determination; they wish to hear from you as soon as ssible, I have an Account by an Onondago Indian, lately re- ·ned from Canada that Sir John Johnson & Coll. Claus had ırched a body of men for Oswego, but were recalled by an press which overtook them on the way below Oswegatche, ave nothing farther to add only that I am Sir Your most obed't very humble Servant

James Dean Agt.

e hon'ble Major Genl. Schuyler Comm'r of Indian Affairs North'n Dept.

[No. 1510.]

GENUINE CAUSE FOR ALARM IN SCHOHARIE.

ɔminent Citizens of Schenectady Appeal to the Governor for Assistance.

Schonectady 15th June 1778.

Honoured Sir, The distressed situation of Tryon County, Scho- ·ie and indeed the whole of our western Frontiers, seem to call loud for relief that we think we should be wanting in our duty, we did not acquaint your Excellency, of the real danger our ntiers are in; Your Excellency may depend on it, that it is no ım to frighten the people, but a thing in real existence, for the ·ple are flying and crowding into this town in great numbers, l by the best information the enemy are realy round about re, and are determined to destroy, and burn up that whole nty, *and unless soon relieved* we undoubtedly believe they will

affect it, and the loss that will arise therefrom to the unhappy individuals of that part of the country will be nothing, in comparison to the loss of the United States, as it is one of our principal wheat countrys, the Enemy having already taken & killed a number of men horses, & Cattle and burned up several houses, in and about Sakondaga; being in full confidence of your Excellency, (on receipt hereof) taking such steps, as you in your great wisdom, shall see most fit for the releif and preservation of this unhappy and distressed country

We are Your Excellency's Most Obedient and Humble Servants

Reyn'r Mynderse, Hugh Mitchell, Jacobus Teller, John Cuyler Jur., Dirk Van Ingen, Henry Glen, Abr'm Oothout, Abraham Fonda.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor & Commander in Chief of the State of New York.

[No. 1511.]

GOUVERNEUR MORRIS TO GEORGE CLINTON.

Reports the Death of Philip Livingston—The Vermont Business in Unsatisfactory Shape—An Attempt to Raise $100,000 for New York.

York Town 16th June 1778.

I am sorry to inform your Excellency of the Death of our friend and my very worthy Colleague Mr. Livingston.* He was from the moment almost of his arrival here confined to his Room and on Fryday last at 1 O'Clock in the Morning paid the last Debt to nature.

I have before me a Report on the Vermont Business. I do not think it adequate nor can I pretend to say whether it will be

*Philip Livingston, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, was born [illegible], N. Y., January 15, 1716, and died at York, Pa., June 12, 1778. He served in [illegible] from New York in 1776.

adopted. At present we are so plagued by applications of the most public nature, and among others of the British commissioners, that really the most important matters slide by. I shall take the earliest opportunity to bring this business on and endeavor to procure such amendments as the nature of the Case requires.

Not having heard any Thing upon the Subject of a former Letter to you as to money matters I am left rather in an awkward Situation but shall nevertheless endeavour to obtain from Congress 100,000 Dollars for the State on Account. If it should be disagreeable it can be paid to some of the continental Officers in the Commissary or Qu'r Master's Line. We have no news here worth relating. I am your Excellency's most ob't Serv't

Gouv'r Morris.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr. &c.

(Copy)

[No. 1512.]

Difficulties in the Way of Providing Supplies for the Army.

Albany June 16: 1778.

Sir, The Distresses of the Grand army and their frequent applications to me for assistance for a Supply of beef, of which Considerable Quantities can be procured in the Course of two or Three weeks in this State, but not at the prices the regulating Act has Prescribed, and which in a Great measure must prevent me of Given a Speedy supply, has induced me to address your Excellency upon the Subject, that such ways and means may be adopted as the Wisdom and prudence of the Legislature may think Proper, in order to Enable me speedily to Give all my assistance to the relief of the armies of the United States.

And at the same time to Inform your Excellency that large quantities of flour are now held In this state, with which

stand under the same Difficulty, though It is not so Immeadiately wanted. Yet It would be prudent to secure all I Posibly can, before to much of It is carried to the Eastward, for which Purpose I am informed purchases are dayly made; the wheat in the Country is not intended to be manufactured into Flour soon, in Exspectation of obtaining a Better Price, Although the Law Gives full authority upon Proper application to Seize any article that is withheld, it is however attended with Great Exspence, uncertainties and great Delay in the busyness, and with so many Inconveniences that would make large Purchases almost an Imposibility.

I am Your Excellency's most Obdt. & most humble Serv't

Jacob Cuyler, D. C. G. Purchases.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr, Gov'r & Comdr. & Chief State New York.

[No. 1513.]

Traces of Indians.

Schohary, June 16: 1778.

A narrative given by one of the Scouts, who sayeth that nigh to Service's, he saw where two Canoes had been landed, where he found pieces of Leather, by which he judged that the Enemy had mended there Shoes. Service told him that last Sunday eight days, Braant was there and had sworn him & John Doxtader, to be true to George the Third.

[No. 1514.]

General Gates Orders a Stop to the Forestalling of Cattle.

Fish Kill 17th June 1778.

Sir, By the enclosed you will see the necessity of putting an immediate stop to the practice of forestalling and engrossing of

Cattle. The General desired I would write you particularly on this subject and beg your answers, Governour Trumbull has been wrote to several days agoe on the same subject. Your answer will much oblidge, Sir, Your most obed't humble Ser't,

Udny Hay.

His Excellency Governour Clinton.

[No. 1515.]

And Governor Clinton's Reply.

Poughkeepsie June 17th 1778.

Sir, I am directed by his Excellency Gov'r Clinton to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of this Date and to inform you that it is not in his Power to prevent Persons from purchasing Cattle in the neighbouring States. If the practice is injurious to the public Service a remedy must be provided by authority of the State from whence the Cattle are procured. His Excellency is assured that several Persons who have lately purchased Cattle to the eastward & taken them to the west side of the River are well affected to our Cause & mean to improve them for the use of the Army. Any abuse that may arise by Engrossers in this State, his Excellency will use every means in his Power to prevent. I am &ca.

Robt. Benson.

Colo. Hay D. Qr. Mr. Genl.

[No. 1516.]

Governor Clinton Not Responsible for Lieutenant Adamson and Ensign Man.

Poughkeepsie 17th June 1778.

Sir, His Excellency Gov'r Clinton has directed me to acknowledge the Rec't of your letter of the 13th & to inform you that he is equally *surprised with* Genl. Gates if you understood that he in-

Ulster County agreeable to the Militia Law Passed the 3d of Ap. 1778.

No. 1) Jacob Wood Capt. Corn's Masten 1d Lieut. Martin Weygant 2d Lieut. Non-Commissioned officers & privates 63.

No. 2) Mathew Johnson Capt Mathew Weygant 1d Lieut. John Bond 2d Lieut. Non Commissioned & Privates 66 men.

No. 3) Siah Robison Capt. Isaac Fowler 1 Lieut. Robert Hunter 2 Lieut. Non Commissioned officers & privates 64 men.

No. 4) Jacob Conkling Capt. Jacob Lawrence 1 Lieut. James Kain Jur. 2d Lieut. John Crowell Ensign. Non Commissioned & privates 65 men.

No. 5) Samuel Clark Capt. Jessen Willkins 1 Lieut. John Foster 2 Lieut. Isaac Hardenbergh Ensign. Non Commissioned officers and privates 66 men.

No. 6) Arthur Smith Capt. James Hunter 1d Lieut. James Gue 2d Lieut. Jacob Rosekran Ensign. Non Commissioned officers & privates 65 men.

No. 7) John Gillaspy Capt. James Denton 1 Lieut. Joseph Crawford 2d Lieut. Mathew Gillaspy Ensign Non Commissioned officers & privates 65 men.

No. 8) Bod Terpening Capt. Will'm Martin 1 Lieut. Peter Decker 2d Lieut. Non Commissioned officers & privates 65 men.

No. 1 63; No. 2 66; No. 3 64; No. 4 65; No. 5 66; No. 6 65; No. 7 65; No. 8 65; 519 Totle. Errors Excepted June 18 1778. P me:

Joh's Hardenbergh Jur. Lt. Colo.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

here is Reason to apprehend they were intended for the Use of the Enemy & requesting the Magistrates & Inhabitants to exert themselves to prevent the Wicked Designs of those People. A transgression of Law on such Occassion may be justified from the necessity of the Case & the Wickedness of the Measure which it is intended to prevent; but when I assure you, as I now do, that Mr. Howell and his Neighbours are by no means men of Suspicious Charecter, on the Contrary Zealous Friends to America, whom I have the greatest Reason to believe meant to promote the public Service as well as their own Interest by purchasing these Cattle to improve & sell for public Use, I trust their Cattle will be returned to them & they might reasonably expect a Compensation for their Expence & Trouble, occassioned by this extraordinary Proceeding ag't them, & more especially as their bringing Cattle out of the State of Massachusetts Bay, is not (as I have learned) prohibitted by any Law of that State, & even if it was, the Seizure, in this can not be justified.

I can only add that the Neighbourhood in which Mr. Howell & his Neighbour, Mr. Mathew Carpenter, lives in Orange County, is a Grass Country well calculated to Improve Cattle, from which the army on the West Side of the River last Year drew Considerable Supplies, particularly the Posts in the Highlands to which it is contiguous. I am Sir with great Regard Your Most Obed't Ser't

G. C.

To Col. Jeremiah Wadsworth.

[No. 1518.]

Returns of the Classes of Colonel Hasbrouck's Regiment.

A Return of the No. of the Different Classes of the several Comp'ys Belonging to Collo. Hasbrouk's Regiment of Militia in

Genl. Gates, That The Militia of Albany Tryon & Ulster County (one Regt. of Albany not to be trusted on the Frontiers excepted) are exempted from that Duty, & destined for the Defence & Protection of the Frontiers, I am perswaded you will agree that proper attention has been paid to the safety of the Frontiers, & considering the Militia as the only Force whose Services I can command, more coud not have been done by me for their Protection.

I am Gentlemen with due Respect Your

[G. C.]

To Reyneir Mynderse, Hugh Mitchell, Jacobus Teller, John Cuyler Jun'r. Dirck Van Ingen, Henry Glen Ab'm Oothout & Ab'm Fonda Esqrs: Schenectady.

[No. 1520.]

Zadock Wright a Tory to Be Delivered to the Mayor of Albany.

State of Massachusetts Bay—In Council June 18th 1778.

Whereas Information is received by a Letter of the 10th cur't from Samuel Mather, Esqr. of Northampton that a certain Zadock Wright Esqr. who heretofore lived at Hartford upon Connecticut River in the State of New York went off to and received a Commission as a Major in Peter's Corps from General Burgoyne some Time the last summer has been lately taken near Hartford aforesaid and sent to the Goal in Northampton aforesaid by order of General Bailey.

Ordered, that the Sheriff of the County of Hampshire be and hereby is directed to take said Wright and deliver him to the Mayor of the City of Albany and that the Secretary of this Satte inclose a Copy of this order to said Sheriff who is further directed to apply to the said Mayor for the Account of any necessary Expence which may attend said service. A true copy.

Attest John Avery D'y sec'y.

[No. 1521.]

Colonel Hasbrouck's Statement of the Extra Services of His Regiment.

A Return of the Extraordinary Services Lately performed by Collo. Hasbrouk's Regiment of Militia, Since the 12 Day of Decem'r 1776 from Time To Time; the No. of men in Service, on what perticular Service & what Term of Time.

What Perticular Services has been perform'd:	*No. of Men.*	*What Term of Time.*
First; at the alarm Decem'r 12 1776 at Ramapough	300	27 Day
2d at Ramapough from 7th of Janu'r 21 Do 1777	100	14 Do
3d under Collo. Pawling from 21 of Jan'r 1777 till Last of Ap. 1777; at Ramapough	200	40 Do
4d under Collo. Snyder at fort Montgomery 4 months	150	120 Do
5d under Collo. Ellison at fort Montgomry 3 month	130	90 Do
6d at the alarm in March 1777; when the s[t]ores was Distroy'd at Peekskill	250	4 Do
7d at the alarm at fort Montgomry, In July 1777	460	8 Do
8d at the alarm at fort Montgomry In Aug't 1777	500	8 Do
9d at the alarm at fort Montgomry In Sept. 1777	400	8 Do
10d at fort Constitution the 1 of Octo'r 1777 under the Command of Maj'r Dubois	200	10 Do
11d the alarm at the Burning of Esopus in Octo'r 1777	460	30 Do
12d the Six weeks Service at Nicholes' Point in Nov'r 1777 under the Command of Collo. Heathorn	120	45 Do
13d at the West Point in March & Ap. 1778 under Mr. Wisner	420	8 Do

Given under my hand this 18 Day of June 1778. Errors Excepted.

Joh's Hardenbergh Lt. Colo.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1522.]

A British Pass for a Sloop Up the Hudson from New York City.

By Major General Valentine Jones, Commandant of New York &c.

The Sloop, ——— John Teller, Master, & the three hands named in the margin, is to be permitted to return up Hudson's River, with Some Furniture, a negroe wench and Child. She came with a Flag of Truce, and is ordered back.

Given under my Hand & Seal in the City of New York the 18th day of June 1778.

Val: Jones M: G. & Command't of New York &c.

By Command of the General: John Le Roome Secry.

To all whom it may Concern.

[No. 1523.]

Association of Exempts in Wallkill, Orange County.

We, the Subscribrs being under the age of fifty five years, who have held civil or military Commissions & have not been reappointed to our respective Ranks of office of being between the ages of fifty And fifty five Years, Do hereby Severally engage, that we will respectively on all Occations obey the Orders of our respective Commanding officers, and will in Cases of Invasion or Incursions of the Enemy or Insurrections, march to Repell the Enemy or Supress such Insorection in the like Maner as the Enrolled militia are Compelled to Do, So as when Called out in Detachments be anexed to any other Regt. or Company or be under the Immediate Command of any other than our own officers.

Witness our Hands this 19th Day of June Anno Domini 1778.

James Wilkin, Henry Savage, Thomas Johnston, Alexander Fisher, Thomas Jamison, William Wilkin, Donald Mcknnes, Sam-

iel McCord, Robert Roger, Robert Carans, George Murry, William Carpeter, John Everet, David Curwin, James Howel, David More, Samuel Mapes, Nathen Ames, Jonathen Webb, Peter McLaughlin, Gil Brown Juner, Gilbord Brown, John Brown, Daved Hartan, Peter Puff, Wm. Wallas, James Ellas, John McWilliams, John Wabe, carp, Robart Osburn, Thomas Eager, Perce Mancefild, Jacob Crance.

We, the Subscribers, being a Majority of the Associated Company of Exempts enrolled on the other Part of this Sheet of Paper, Do hereby recommend to the Honorable, The Council of Appointment, James Wilkin to be our Captain, Samuel McCord to be our first Lieutenant, David Currin to be our Second Lieutenant, and Peter McLaughlin to be our Ensign.

Witness our Hands this 19th Day of June 1778.

Henry Savage, Thomas Johnston, Alexander Fisher, Thomison Jamison, William Willkin, Donald Mcknnes, Samuel McCord, Robert Roger, Robert Carns, George Murrey, William Carpetr, John Everet, James Howel, Daved Moore, Samuel Mapes, Nathan Ames, Jonathen Webb, Peter McLauchlen, Rikart Correntan, Daniel McNeel, Thomas Eager, Parce Mansfild, John Brown, John McWilliams.

(Endorsed: "Agreed & Entred 4th Nov'r 1778.")

[No. 1524.]

President Laurens Forwards Congressional Legislation to Governor Clinton.

York Town 20th June 1778.

Sir, I had the honor of writing to Your Excellency under the 9th* & 10th† Inst. & of presenting to Congress on the 17th Your

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*See pages 433-434. † Not found.

Excellency's favor of the 29 May. The present serves to cover two Acts of Congress—

1—of the 4th Inst. recommending a suspension or Repeal of Acts of Assembly for regulating prices of goods.—this I apprehend applies not to New York.

2—of the 17th Inst. for preventing all correspondence between the Enemy & private persons Citizens of these United States.

And I take the liberty of adding four of this days Gazettes containing Intelligence important & Interesting to the public.

Your Excellency will have heard before this can reach your hands, of the Enemy's retreat from Philadelphia & probably know more than I do of the motions of the Commander in Chief who decamped from Valley Forge the 18th & 19th Inst. I have the honor to be, With very great Esteem & Respect, Sir, Your Excellency's Obedient hum. serv't

Henry Laurens; President of Congress.

His Excellency Governor Clinton, New York.

In Congress; June 4th 1778.

Whereas by a change of circumstances in the commerce of these States, the regulation of prices lately recommended by Congress may be unnecesary, and the measure not being yet adopted by all the States, therefore

Resolved, That it be recommended to the legislatures of the several States, that have adopted it, to suspend or repeal their laws made for that purpose.

Extract from the minutes Chas. Thomson secy.

In Congress; June 17th 1778.

Whereas many letters, addressed to individuals of these United States, have been lately received from England, through the conveyance of the enemy, and some of them, which have been under the inspection of members of Congress, are found to contain ideas insidiously calculated to divide and delude the good people of these States:

Resolved, That it be, and it is hereby earnestly recommended to the legislative and executive authorities of the several States, to exercise the utmost care and vigilance, and take the most effectual measures to put a stop to so dangerous and criminal a correspondence.

Resolved, That the commander in chief, and the commanders in each and every military department be, & they are hereby directed to carry the measures recommended in the above resolution into the most effectual execution.

Extract from the minutes.

Chas. Thomson secy.

[No. 1525.]

Stark and Ten Broeck Favor an Expedition Against the Schoharie Indians.

Albany 20th June 1778.

Sir, Your Excellency's favours of the 8th* & 11th† Instant I have Rec'd with Copy of General Gates's letter of the 9th Instant. The Expedition Your Excellency advises, General Stark & I think Practicable, He tells me he writes you fully on this Subject; what Force the General is like to gett I don't know; only about 100 of the Berkshire militia is come in, & from what I can learn he means to keep Alden's Regiment here.

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* See pages 432-433. † See pages 447-448.

I have Ordered one fourth part of Colonell Robert Van Rensselaer's, Van Ness's, Whiting's, Van Alstyn's, Killian Van Rensselaer's, Schuyler's, Nicoll's, Van den Bergh's & Van Bergen's Regiments to be at Albany the 23d Instant to Relieve the militia of my Brigade at Schohary & in Tryon County. The Inclosed Papers I have Received from Schohary. I have nothing material to Communicate from Tryon. With great Esteem I remain Your Excellency's Most Obedient Humble Servant

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1526.]

James DeGolier Swears He Saw a Large Indian War Party.

Personally appeared before me James De Golier, who being duly Sworn deposeth & Saith that in the Evening of the 20th Instant, he was at Sakendago about 1½ miles from his house, where he discovered a number of Indians upon their march towards the Mohawks River (and believes by the Course they took that they will Strike the River near about the house of John B. Van Eps); that he was not above 100 yds. from them & Counted upwards of 400 & believed the whole party Consisted of about 500 white men & Indians all painted & further says not.

his
James X de Golier
mark

Sworn before me this 22d day of June 1778.

Ab'm Van Alstyn, Colonel.

[No. 1528.]

RETURN OF THE REGIMENT OF MILITIA COMMANDED BY COLONEL JAMES HAMMAN, PHILIPSE BURGH JUNE 22d 1778.

COMPANIES.	Officers Present												Rank & File					Wanting				
	Commissioned								Non Commissioned													
	Colonel	Lt. Colonel	Major	Captains	1st. Lieuts.	2d. Lieuts.	Ensigns	Adjutant	Serjeant Major	drum & Fife Major	Serjeants	Drums & fifes	Privates fit for duty	Sick present	Sick absent	On Command	Total	Arms	Accoutrem'ts	Flints	Cartridges	
Capt. Daniel Martling				1	1	1	1				4		28				36	3	3	78	524	N. B. Those persons wanting arms & accoutrem'ts are not Included—9 others sworn allegiance to K'g George & 3 which Live below the lines.
Capt. George Comb				1	1	1	1				4		43				51	2	2	106	848	
Capt. Jones Orser				1	1	1	1				4		16				24	30	30	108	864	
Capt. Gabriel Requaw				1	1	1	1				4		61				69	7	7	152	1216	
Total	1			4	4	4	4				16		148				180	42	42	444	3452	

James Hamman

did Escape, affirm, that Brandt was the Comander, and that his party consists of about five hundred. So much is certain, that his Number encreaseth dayly; many very lately did run off moved by Disaffection; others join him moved by fear, and severall are forced to tacke up Arms against us, or to swear Allegiance to the King of Britain. We are informed and Brandt boasted openly. that he will be joined at Unatelly, by Buttler, and that within eight Days he will return and lay the whole County waste. The dreadfull Sight of Springfield and Andrewtown heightened with these Reports puts the people of the County into the greatest Consternation; they speack of nothing but flying off; Harvest time is at Hand & no prospect of a speedy Assistence; the officers and the principal Inhabitants meet with the greatest Difficulties, to persuade the People to stand out only but a few Days, untill it should be in the power of the government to sent us relief. Last Sunday Morning I dispached an Express to general Ten Broeck, and desired his recomendation of the Situation of our County to your Excellency & to gen Starks, but did not receive an Answer. Your Excellency, the comon father of the good People of this State, upon whose fatherly Exertions the People of this County relieth, and which keepeth the many poor, the numerous widows and the fatherless still in hopes, will, we fervently pray, grant us such speedy relief, as your Ex'llcy in your wisdom shall see meet; & In case it should be an impossibility: to afford us any Assistance with Batteaus, to bring off wifes and Childern, that they might not be a prey to a cruel Enemy. Having tacken the Liberty to macke your Excellency acquainted withe the Situation and Sentiments of the people I remain as in duty Bound Sir Your most obedient and most humble Servant

Jacob Klock.

To his Excellency George Clinton.

[No. 1528.]

RETURN OF THE REGIMENT OF MILITIA COMMANDED BY COLONEL JAMES HAMMAN, PHILIPSE BURGH JUNE 22d 1778.

COMPANIES.	Officers Present												Rank & File					Wanting				
	Commissioned								Non Commissioned													
	Colonel	Lt. Colonel	Major	Captains	1st. Lieuts.	2d. Lieuts.	Ensigns	Adjutant	Serjeant Major	drum & Fife Major	Serjeants	Drums & fifes	Privates fit for duty	Sick present	Sick absent	On Command	Total	Arms	Accoutrem'ts	Flints	Cartridges	
Capt Daniel Martling				1	1	1	1				4		28				36	3	3	78	524	N. B. Those persons wanting arms & accoutrem'ts are not Included — 9 others sworn allegiance to K'g George & 3 which Live below the lines.
Capt. George Comb				1	1	1	1				4		43				51	2	2	106	848	
Capt. Jonas Ore r				1	1	1	1				4		16				24	30	30	108	864	
Capt. Gabriel Requaw				1	1	1	1				4		61				69	7	7	152	1216	
Total	1			4	4	4	4				16		148				180	42	42	444	3452	

James Hamman

As the Prospect of Deliverance approaches, our Exertions should become more vigorous. A State of Security, consisting chiefly in flattering Views, would have a fatal Tendency to expose us to Surprise, when Danger is least apparent: We are to expect another active Campaign; and besides discharging our public Engagements, in supplying our full Quota of Continental Troops, the Militia of this State should stand cheerfully ready, on the most sudden Call, to reinforce the Continental Army; on the Success of whose Operations depends the Fate of America. Let this Year distinguish us then, more conspicuously than ever for our spirited Efforts, in so noble, so exalted a Cause. What an insidious Foe has not been able to affect by Arms, will now be attempted by Art and Circumvention; should these fail, Recourse will doubtless be had again to open Force: The Vanity and Pride of Britain will not permit her to cede the Empire of America, without one more violent Effort; which can only injure us by finding us unprepared. Delusory Laws of the British Senate are now tendered by Commissioners, appointed for the Purpose, to divide the Inhabitants of the United States and to sooth them with the specious, but ruinous Prospect of Peace and Security, whilst their Fleets and Armies are not withdrawn, but reinforced; and the revolted Subjects, joined by Savages, under the Influence of British Emissaries, are encouraged in the Commission of cruel Depredations on our defenceless frontier Inhabitants: These Laws, you will readily perceive (though in Terms designedly unexpressive) implicatively assert the absolute Supremacy of Parliament, the Rebellion of America and the discretionary Power of pardoning and punishing for this supposed Rebellion: They are unjustly calculated to draw from America her Ultimatum: They are the forced Language of In-

becility for Conquest, not the natural Desire for Equality in the Union: They are formed to disarm, with a treacherous Design, the more effectually to complete our Ruin. Permit me, therefore, to recommend to your serious Attention the Papers on this Subject; they will serve to shew you the Sense of Congress, on fallacious and destructive Overtures of our Enemy, secure us against an unmanly and impatient Anxiety for a dangerous Peace, and teach us to wait, without repining, for the wise Result of that august Body, to whom we have entrusted the important Concerns of America, as the only proper Rule of our Conduct.

To encrease the Distresses of our Enemy, by depriving them of all Supplies from the Continent, and to ensure the Success of our Operations, Congress, have thought fit, by an Embargo of the 8th Instant, to prohibit the Exportation of Provisions for a limited Time; I submit it, therefore, to your Consideration, whether, instead of our present Embargo-Law (which was intended to prevent Supplies going to the Enemy from this, through the neighbouring States) some new Provision ought not to be instituted, for permitting a Commutation of Necessaries between us and our Sister States, and open that free Communication with them, which we ought always studiously to maintain, so guarded, however, as effectually to prevent Monopoly.

I am sorry that I am obliged to furnish you (by some of the Papers herewith delivered) with an Opportunity of observing, that the Regulation agreed on by a Convention of the States, at New-Haven, in January last, for the Reduction of Prices, so strongly recommended by Congress, has not obtained the Approbation of all the States. It behoves the Legislature to consider, how far a partial Regulation, obligatory on the In-

habitants of this State, may be injurious to its Welfare, and inadequate to the Design of imposing it, and consequently, what new Provisions ought to be made on a Subject of so much Importance Permit me to observe, that should this Regulation prove abortive, the Necessity of calling out of Circulation, our Emission of State Money, by Taxes and other Means, will become more cogent, and to recommend this Matter to your most serious Attention.

You will be able, from the Papers herewith delivered to you, to see what Effect the Proclamation, founded on the concurrent Resolutions of the Senate and Assembly, has had, as well on the designing and the deluded Inhabitants, who aim at Independency, under the Title of the State of Vermont, as on the well-affected Subjects in that Part of this State. In the Judgment of the disinterested, all Claims on the Justice, and even on the Generosity of this State, have been fully satisfied. From a Perusal of those Papers you will also discover, how strenuously I have pressed for an express and unequivocal Declaration of the Sense of Congress on that important Subject; and as this Matter has, in Consequence of my Application, been referred to a special Committee, I offer it, as worthy your deliberate Consideration, whether the Result of Congress ought not to be patiently expected, before any coercive Steps be taken to reduce the Delinquents to a proper Sense of their Duty.

Geo. Clinton.

Poughkeepsie, June 22, 1778.

The Governor Submits a Commissary's Account to the Legislature with an Explanation.

*Gentlemen of the Legislature, The Accounts herewith delivered to you, were tendered to me by Captain Cregier, who acted as Commissary to Captain Johnson's Company of Rangers, raised in Orange County.

On an Examination of those Accounts, you will perceive, that the Sum expended for Rations (though not amounting to the Number due to the Company) together with the Commissaries Wages, exceeds the Sum allowed by Congress, at Ten Pence Halfpenny per Ration, L. 177:19:8.

As I do not conceive myself authorised to pay this Balance, however reasonable and politic the Measure might be, I think it my Duty to submit the Propriety of it to your Consideration and Advice; of which I am the more desirous, as other Accounts, for supplying the Militia, which have or may be called into Service, will arise, and as the Prices of every Necessary are greatly encreased, the public Service demands that they be liquidated, on such Principles as to do Justice and to give Satisfaction to the Parties interested in them.

Geo. Clinton.

Poughkeepsie, June 22, 1778.

[No. 1529.]

A Small Controversy Over Captain Teller's Officiousness.

Fort Arnold June 22d 1778.

Sir, John Teller, Master of a Flag of Truce to New York, has returnd to this Post & contrary to his Duty bro't a number of Persons from the City; I know nothing of the men or those who are come out, and cannot Suffer them to remain here. I have orderd a Guard on Board the Sloop with orders to deliver the men

*From Journals of the Legislature.

& Passengers to your Excellency by whose Permission the Flag went down. I am y'r Excellency's y'r Obed't h'e Serv't

Saml. H. Parsons.

To His Excellency Governor Clinton, Poughkeepsie.

Sir, I have received your Letter of yesterday, one of the Women on Board is the Wife of a Person who has been in our Service is a hearty Friend & now lives in the Country; the other is her Mother they are both exchanged. The Man ought not to have been brought out And as a Punishment to the Person having the Direction of the Flagg I have ordered him to conduct the Fellow back to the Lines. You are Misstaken if you suppose the Flag went down by my Permission; it was obtained from Genl. Gates. I only consented to it.

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Parsons.]

[No. 1530.]

General Gates Forwards to Governor Clinton an Extract from a Letter from General Washington.

June 20 1778 4 O'clock P. M.

Sir, I think it necessary to inform you by the return of the express who brought your packett for Congress, that I am now with the main body of the army within ten miles of Coryells ferry.

General Lee is advanced with ten Brigades and will cross to night or early to morrow morning, by the last intelligence the Enemy were near Mount Holly and moving on very slowly, but as there are so many roads open to them their route could not be ascertained.

I shall enter the Jersey to morrow and give you the earliest notice of their movements or whatever may affect you.

Fish Kill 23d June 1778.

Sir, I am ordered by the General to send you the above extract of a letter from General Washington to him rec'd this forenoon, just as I left head Quarters an acc'tt was rec'd of some of the Enemys vessels coming up the river. I have the Honour to be with much esteem, Sir, Your most obed't humble Se't

Udny Hay.

[To Governor George Clinton.]

[No. 1531.]

Governor Clinton Gives Colonel Hay Advice in Regard to Impressing Teams.

Fish Kill 22nd June 1778.

Sir, I am this moment assured of the Enemy having left Philadelphia on 18th inst. In consequence of this I have applyd to the justices of the Peace for fifty Waggons to be sent to this as soon as possible.

I hope that my request will be duly complyd with. I wish such a power was given into our hands for a short time as would enable us to procure necessaries for the Army (Waggons in particular) without being oblidged strictly to follow the rules laid down by the present Law. I pawn my Honour that any grant of this sort which the Legislative Body of this State is pleasd to admitt of shall never be used with any other view than that of serving the public cause by, Sir, Your most obed't humble Ser't,

Udny Hay.

To His Excellency Governor Clinton, Poughkeepsie.

[June 23, 1778.]

Sir, I am favoured with your Letter of yesterday. I immediately laid the Contents before the Assembly and this Morning a Member reported to me that the Sense of that House is that the present Occassion is such as by the Law of this State for regulating Impresses the Genl. Commanding in the Department is sufficiently authorized to issue his own Warrant for Impressing the necessary Number of Teems & Carriages for the present Service. They only wish that in executing such Warrant a Constable may be called upon to assist in each District & that The Teems & Carriages be taken from such Parts of the State as has been least Burthened with this Kind of Service providing Time will permit the Exercise of that Precaution. I am &c.

[G. C.]

Col. Hay.

[No. 1532.]

Governor Clinton Orders Captain Teller to Escort to the British Lines, a Man Improperly Brought by him from New York City.

The Bearer James Teller having had the Direction of a Flagg to New York, and on his Return brought out with him contrary to his Duty, Moses Gregory, a Blind Man, from that Place by Direction of the British Commandant, is hereby directed to see that the said Moses Gregory be directly taken to the Lines and sent back to the Enemy as he will answer the Contrary at his Peril. He is to produce a Certificate from the Commanding Officer at the Lines of his having complied with this Order. Given under my Hand at Poughkeepsie this 23d June 1778.

G. C.

[No. 1533.]

Colonel Hay Promises to Exercise "Every Soothing Method."

Fish Kill 24 June 1778.

Sir, As a quantity of flour ought immediately to be thrown into the Fort at West Point, have sent the bearer to request the justices of Armenia Precinct and the nine partners will order the Waggoners who they were to furnish by my request of 22nd inst. immediately to apply to Mr. Schanks, the purchasing Commissary at Poughkeepsie, who will sett them at work to carry down the Flour to boats which will be sent for the purpose of receiving the same; must, therefore, beg you will acquaint him with the justices names in those two precincts; the express who carryed my letter to them not yett being returned. I wish I could gett a list of the justices names in every precinct in the state.

I am sorry to trouble you so often, but my ignorance of the Country putts me to many inconveniences, which though I foresaw, I cannot fall upon a method to avoid.

Was honored with yours of yesterday; shall immediately apply to the General for a warrant. Your Caution with respect to the Constable I am much oblidged to you for; every soothing method to incite the inhabitants to a sense of their Duty upon the present very important occasion shall be used, nor shall force ever be exerted but in cases of the utmost necessity.

If any thing of consequence relative to the Army *properly authenticated* comes to my ears it shall immediately be communicated to your Excellency by Sir Your most obed. humble Se't

Udny Hay.

His Excellency Governour Clinton.

[No. 1534.]

Governor Clinton Instructs Samuel Miller in the Form of Application for the Organization of Exempts.

Poughkeepsie 24th June 1778.

Sir, Major Parks produced me a List of Persons proposed for Officers in a Company of Exempts forming in your District, which for want of a regular Ascoitation being drawn up subscribed & returned to me, agreable to the Militia Law, The Council coud not proceed to their Appointment, for the Company the Recommend of whom ought also to appear by a Certificate duely subscribed by a Majority of the Company. I, therefore, desired Mr. Parks to return it & apprize you of the Error & give you Directions how to proceed & now for fear of any Future Error which may occasion new & unnecessary Trouble I inclose you an Ascoitation drawn in form & a Certificate recommending the Officers. The Ascoiation must be subscribed by the whole Company the Recommendation by a Majority of it. I am Sir with great Regard Your Most Obed't Serv't

To Samuel Miller Esqr. Hanover. [G. C.]

[No. 1535.]

Returns of a Detachment of General Ten Broeck's Brigade.

Return of a Detachment of Militia of nine Regiments of General Ten Broeck's Brigade, Embodied for the protection of the Western Frontiers 24th June 1778.

Regiments	privates last return	Emodied ¼th part	marched to Schohary	marched to Cherry Valley	Marched to Johns town	Total marched
Robert Van Rensselaer's	254	63			29	29
Van Ness's	317	79		30		30
Nicolls	302	75	50			50
Killian Van Rensselaer's	358	89	21			21
Van Den Bergh's	230	57	4			4
Schuyler's	225	56	24			24
Van Alstyn's	206	51			8	8
Van Bergen's	194	48				
Whiteing's	379	94		38		38
		612	99	68	37	204

[No. 1536.]

CRIOUS CHARGE AGAINST BURGOYNE.

That he Ordered his Standards Burned to Prevent the Americans from Obtaining Them.

York Town 25th June 1778.

I beg leave to refer Your Excellency to my last of the by Dodd.

closed Your Excellency will be pleased to receive a Copy a information relative to the Colours of the Army late Gen- Burgoyne's which ought to have been surrendred at the Con- ntion of Saratoga.

General Heath is directed by Congress to continue his en- avors for obtaining further evidence & if possible the remains the Standards.

I have the honor to be With great Esteem & Respect Sir Your xcellency's Most Obedient serv't

Henry Laurens, President of Congress.

His Excellency Governor Clinton New York.

Copy of information inclosed in a latter from genl. Heath of June 1778.

After the German army of Fritmanfirm had moved or re- reated to Saratoga and were surrounded with the provincials— hen major genl. viz Riedesel gave order That genl. Burgoyne nd commanded the standards should be burnt, that they might ot fall into the hands of the provincials. The following hight xtra orders were given that genl. Burgoyne would fight his on which he received orders to cut the staffs from put them in the covered waggon to go with night major V Mengen came to me and

said I should, in case I was asked, inform the other freed corps that we had burnt the standards, so that we might be unanimous where they are now—we suppose on Prospect Hill.

signed Ernst Frederick Segern.

We hereby witness that the standards were not burnt but are brought hence by favour.

signed H. Siebert lieut.

John Frederick Rameke surgeon.

June 6, 1778.

A copy compared Chas. Thomson secy.

[No. 1537.]

An Appeal for the Organization of a Company of Rangers Which Governor Clinton Heeds.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor and Commander in Chief of the State of New York and To the Honourable the Senate and Assembly of the said State.

The Petition of the Subscribers Inhabitants of the Districts of Clavarack Kinderhook and Kings

Humbly Sheweth: That the many murders and Robberies parpetrated in the neighbourhood of your petitioners by persons who are enemies to the present happy Constitution of this State and who besides the gratification of their own advantages, mean by such practices to distress the friends of Government, are circumstances of So alarming a nature that your petitioners conceive that neither their lives or properties are Safe unless some Speedy remady is applyed to this growing Evil.

Your petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that the premisies may be taken into Consideration and that Leave may be Granted them to raise one Company of Rangers to Consist of one Captain, Two

Lieutenants, & Privates in order to Scour the woods to apprehend Such attrocious offenders.

And your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall ever pray &c.

Peter Van Ness, Cornelius Humfrey Isaac Goes, Philip Van Alstin Harman Van Burn Jacobus Van Alen W. V. Nes Gabrel Esselstyn Cornelis S. Muller.

June ye 16th 1778.

Poughkeepsie 25th June 1778.

Sir, I have received your Petition requesting leave to raise a Company of Rangers for the Purposes therein mentioned. I wish you had been more explicit on the Subject Because I have no Objection to the raising of such Company provided they are engaged to serve for a certain limitted Time on the ordinary Pay & Subsistance and subject as well to such other Duty as the Commander in Chief for the Time being shall think proper to direct as the Duty you particularly mention. If you can engage a Company on these Terms you have my Leave & the sooner it is effected the better. At the same Time as an Encouragement I assure you I will not order the Company on any other Duty, except when it shall be necessary to call Detachments of Militia in Service, & then if they are ordered out, the Regiments from which they shall be raised, shall have due Credit for them in their Proportion of Militia to be furnished. I have only to add that I shall expect a Regular Return of what you shall cause to be done in the Premisses. I am &c.

[G. C.]

Colo. Van Ness.

[No. 1538.]

The Assistant Commissary of Purchases States a Grievance.

Amenia 25 June 177[illegible].

S'r, I am orderd by the D. Com'y G'l of Purchis and the Dep. Com'y G. of Issues to send on all the flour I Possibilly Can to the Eastward & also to fill the Publick Magazine at Sharon, which have Indeavoured to Dew, & for that Purpos have Inlisted 6 wagons & 2 ox teams for six months, which with the assistance of sum Neighbours have forwarded about 1500 bbl. out of 5000, I was orderd to forward, Never Dreamming of an act being made ag't any Cont'l Property being Carried out of the State, Untill this Day when my teams are all stopd and the act Prodused ag't any flour going out, Unless the Person first had a permit from your Excellency; have, therefore, Sent an Express to weigh on you for a Permitt to Carry out Publick flour when Ever orderd by the Com'y & that onely. I have a Permit to Carry out Live Beef, from Govener Trumbell out of that State into this, & Should be glad to have your Permit to Carry flour into any Eastern State where orderd. as our teams are all Stopd Both Publick Teams, & Private. Should be glad the Express mite be Despatch'd as soon as Posibell.

If you think Proper to send me a Permit Pleas to Send one for Esq. Canfield of Sharon as he is under the same Difficulty as my self. I am S'r in Hast Your Humb'e Serv't

James Reed A. C. P.

His Excellency George Clinton Esq. Poughkeepsie.

[No. 1539.]

A Delegation of Wallkill Make a Protest to Governor Clinton.

Ulster County.

Sir, This is to Inform Your Excellency, of the Situation of this *Precinct* at this presant time; that it is without any Rule or Gov-

ernment at Preasent, And that Constables out of our Neighbouring Precinct is obliged to Come & Impress our teames and wagons, which is A Greavance to the people, as those Constables Living at A Distance, it Cannot be thought Can be aquainted with the Circumstances of the People; as for the Justices That has Been appointed for this precinct, They do not Qualify, for what Reason we Know not, Except that they may think that they are not Agreeable to the minds of the people; if that be the Case, it is Mater of fact, for there was not as much as one of the members of Committee that we Know of that was acquainted with the Appointment.

Therefor, our petition is, that if it May Please Your Excellency to Grant A priviledge to the prinsable freeholders of this precinct, with such as has been members of Committee, to make a Return of Such men as they may think of Known Integrity to the Common Cause, that we are all Imbarked in for Justiceses of the peace, As Your petitioners is fully of Opinion that all offices wheather Civel or military originates from the People in the formation of Goverment and that no man has a Right to Rule his Neighbour as A majestrate without his Consent; if it may please Your Excellancy to agree with this our Reasonable petition we make no Doubt but it will Render Satisfaction to Your Excellency and tend to promote peace and Harmony in this Precinct.

William Willkin, Edward McNeal, Henry Savage, James Wilkin, Peter McLauchlin, Thomas Eager, Samuel McCord, John McNeal, Edward Campbell, John Wright, John Eager, And'w McCord, William Weave, William Falknor, Sen'r, Samuel Falknor, James McCord.

To his Excellency George Clinton
Governor of the State of New York.
Wallkill June 25th 1778.

[No. 1540.]

Commissary Lockwood Asks for a Permit to Export Flour from New York.

Norwalk State Connecticut 26th June A D 1778.

To the Honou'bl George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State of New York

Honoured Sir, For this Two years Past I have Served as Issuing Comasary for this town, both in the Continental and State Servis, and likewise have alwaise had orders for Purchasing the Provisions I Stod in need of, to Supply the Station, and being now in want of a Quantity of Flower which I Can purchas in New York State, in Duches County, would Beg leave to Trouble Your Honour with this Petition, that Your Honour would please to Grant me a permit To Transport out of Your State, about Sixty Barrels of Flower which I want Solely for Publick use. I Should have waited on your Honour in Stead of Sending this Request, but Having Proceeded with the Bearer to the Fishkill, where I now am Come, in order to Sittel an acc't with Col. Hughs, I am obliged to turn and go down to West Point, to Get my acc'ts Signed, by General Parsons, upon which I have ventured to Send these Presents by ye Bearer, Mr. Daniel Platt, who perhaps may Give Your Honour a Small Sketch of my Caracter if your Hon'r Should Chuse to Enquire, and may Show your Hon'r Some Papers, which I accidentally brot with me; if your Hon'r Should please to Grant the Permit, you will Please to Send it by him or if not, if your Hon'r will please to authorise Doct. Crane or Deacon Foster to Permit me to Carry out what they Shall think I Stand in need of, it will much oblige Your Humble Servant

Eliphalet Lockwood, Issuing Co'y.

[No. 1541.]

THE SERVICE SUFFERS FOR LACK OF OFFICERS.

General Ten Broeck Reports the Militia Slow in Turning Out—A Delinquent Court Martial Ordered.

Albany 27th June 1778.

Sir, I did my self the Honour to write your Excellency the 20th Instant, acquainting you that I had ordered one fourth part of nine Regts. of my Brigade to Relieve those at Schohary & Tryon County; these I formed into a Regiment & have appointed a Colonell, a Lieut. Colonel, & a major to Command the same to Continue in Service one month. I am astonished to find so few appear; according to the Returns made to me last Febry. the number ought to be 590 men & but about 200 have marched, about 100 of them to Schohary & the Remainder to Tryon County. I have Ordered a General Court martial to meet the 1st July to Try the Delinquents. The Service Suffers much for the want of Officers, some Regiments are almost without any, I wish your Excellency would be pleased to forward the new Commissions as soon as Possible. The Inclosed is Copy of what I Rec'd a day or two ago. Yestardy I received a letter from Colonel Van Alstyn Informing me that his Scouts had Returned & made not the least discovery of an Enemy, upon which he Re-examined the Deponent when he denied what he had Swore the 22d Instant. I Remain with great Esteem Your Excellency's most Obedient Servant,

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

His Excell'cy George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1542.]

General Gates Requests Governor Clinton to Take Command of West Point.

Peeks Kill, June 27 1778.

Dear Sir, Upon moving the main Body of the army down the Country I prevailed upon General Glover to take the Command at West Point. But unfortunately that Gentleman was yesterday taken ill, and still continues weak. He is however very willing to undertake the Direction of that Post until the affairs of this state will permit you to assume the Command. Knowing the Influence your station and personal Sway with the militia will give to your authority, I anxiously wish & desire you to assume the Command at West Point. General Glover's Brigade is with the Grand Army, and he only remains here till I can find a proper Person to relieve him. I have not a syllable from General Washington, since his of the 21st Inst. but hourly expect to hear most important News. I am, Sir Your affectionate Humble Servant

Horatio Gates.

P. S. I hope Mr. Livingston entertained you with the newspaper I sent him yesterday.

His Excellency Governour Clinton.

I am this moment informed, by Capt. Grenale, (late Commander of a Frigate burnt in Delaware) that, on Wednesday Night, the Enemy's Army were at Allen Town; & Gen: Washington's at Hopewell; our Army under Orders to march at 4 O'Clock on Thursday morning. The Enemy have been Nine days compleat from Philad'a, how are they to be Victualled, until they reach So. Amboy, where it is believed they were bending their Course.

[No. 1543.]

New Paltz forms an Exempt Company and Names Officers.

New Paltz, June 27th 1778.

May it please Your Excellency: Pursuant to an Act of the Legislature of this State, entitled, An Act for Regulating the militia of the State of New York, The Persons in the New Paltz Township or District who have held Civil or military Commissions (being under the age 55 years) and who are not re-appointed to their respective proper Ranks of Office, and other Persons between the ages of Fifty and Fifty-five years, to the number of Seventeen, have Associated and form'd themselves into a Company, for the purposes in the said Act mention'd; and it is expected more Persons will associate and join said Company.

The said Associators do recommend to your Excellency for Captain of said Company, Lewis J. Dubois, and for their Lieutenant, Jacobus Hasbrouck, both residents in said Township. By Order of the said Associators.

Z: Hasbrouck.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esquire. Governor in Chief of the State of New York at Poghkeepsie.

[No. 1544.]

Colonel Hay Foraging for Wagons.

Head Quarters Peaks Kill 29th June 1778.

Sir, As a movement of this army is now to take place, it will be absolutely necessary that a sufficient quantity of Waggons are constantly found for the necessary duty of the Army and for furnishing them with provisions; this oblidges me to take a considerable number from this State; many of whom come voluntarily; those I have taken all the pains possible to have treated

with the utmost tenderness, some few (having escaped with impunity for the same crime formerly) have deserted, after having been legally impressed; these I must for the good of the service, use with some degree of severity, otherwise I shall never be able to putt an end to that very pernicious custom. Probably complaints on this head may be laid before you; must therefore intreat you will give as little countenance to them for some little time as you properly can, consistent with your dignifyed Station. Depend on my paying every possible attention to the rights of mankind and the laws of this State which I possibly can do consistent with the duty of my present office. I have the Honour to be w'h great respect Sir Your most obed. humble Se't

Udny Hay.

His Excellency Governor Clinton, Poughkeepsie.

[No. 1545.]

Association of Exempts in Ulster County.

We, the Subscribers, being under the Age of fifty five years who have held Civil or Military Commissions & have not been reappointed to our respective Ranks of Office, or being between the Ages of fifty & fifty five years Do hereby severally engage that we will respectively on all Occasions obey the Orders of our respective Commanding Officers and will in Cases of Invasion or Incursion of the Enemy or Insurections march to repell the Enemy or suppress such Insurection in like Manner as the Enrolled Militia are compelled to do; So as we shall not when called out in Detachments be annexed to any other Regiment or Company or be under the immediate Command of any other than our own Officers. Witness our Hands this 29th Day of June 1778.

William Simrell, John Graham, Isaac Rosa, James Huey, James cHugh, Hendriekus Terwillger, Jonatan his X Decker, Jost Hen-:h Heis, John Comford, Crist his X Miller, John mark Luts, John Bark-y, Oldrick his X Iwilggel, Jacob mark X Teis, Jacob his X Haltay, Peter :nsel, Henrey mark HK his Crance, Daniel mark X his Anderson, William ephen, Thomas mark Turner, Daniel *——, James mark McCurdy, Samuel ırkley, Stven his X Carny, John Yeamons, James Gillespy, Thomas ott, Stephen mark Holcom, John Shaffer, James Douglass, Hugh his X mark ougherte.

We the Subscribers being a Majority of the Company of asso-ated Exempts enrolled on the other Part of this Sheet of Paper o hereby recommend to the Honorable The Council of Appoint-ent for Officers of said Company William Sumerhill to be Cap-ıin, John Graham first Lieutenant, Isaac Roosa Second Lieu-nant and James Huey to be Ensign of the said Company. Wit-ess our Hands this 27th Day of June 1778.

William Simorell, John Graham, Isaac Rosa, James Huey, Hen-rickus Terwilleger, Janathan his X Decker, Crist his X Meller, Jost enrich Heis, James McHugh, mark John Luts, John mark Barkley, Jacob Wilty, Oldrick his X Iwilggel, Jacob his X Teis John Comford, Peter ırk mark mark ensel, William Stephens, Henrey his HK Crance, Thomas Turner, mark aniel *——, James McCurdy, Samuel Barkley his Stven X Carny, mark ohn Yeamons, Daniel his X Anderson, James Gillespy, Thomas mark ott, Stephen Holcom, John Shaffer, James Douglass, Hugh his X mark ougherte.

* Indecipherable.

[No. 1546.]

THE ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLAR ADVANCE.

Governor Clinton Suggests to Gouverneur Morris how the Money Should be Distributed.

Poughkeepsie 29th June 1778.

Dear Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of the 16th Inst. The Death of our mutual friend Mr. Livingston gives me real concern as well for the Loss the public has sustained in him as his distressed widow and family who will feel it at this critical conjuncture more severely.

From my Situation previous to my Election to the Government of this State, I was utterly ignorant how monied matters stood between it and the Continent; nor have I since been able to learn what Disbursements have been made by the former in favor of the Latter. Whether, therefore, the Sum you mean to ask Congress to advance in favor of this State will be for its Interest or not, I presume you (who have long been a member of our Convention) are much better qualified to judge than I am.

The matters complained of in my former Letter you will remember respected Individuals, They appeared to me to be occasioned by the want of Cash in the Quarter Mr. and Commissary's Departments to pay off the Accounts of the Inhabitants who supplied the Army on the west side of the River, after the Loss of the Forts in the Highlands and the Detachments which marched thro' that part of the Country from the Northward to reinforce the grand Army. But I find that tho' these Departments have since been supplied with Cash, these Accounts remain unpaid. The Commissary's & Quarter Masters alledge that they accrued before their appointments, that the Vouchers attending them are not regular, and that therefore they are not authorized to discharge them.

These good People is the Evil I wish redressed. It is not to be accomplished by sending Money to the State alone without directing some proper mode for liquidating and discharging these Debts. Perhaps a Resolution especially charging the present Commissaries and Quarter Masters with this Business would answer the Purpose. I am &c.

Geo: Clinton.

Gouv'r Morris Esqr.

(Copy)

[No. 1547.]

Colonel Malcom Reports that Gates Will Transfer his Headquarters to White Plains.

Head Quar. Peeks Kill June 29 1778—12 O'Clock P. M.

Dear Governor, In a few hours we shall move on to our old ground at W't plains—but our force is not such as to raise your expectations very high—its in your power to make us sufficiently formidable, to disturb the grand nest.

I hear your assembly are soon to be prorogued—if so we shall expect the Honor of your Company.

This day we had advice from Genl. Washington—500 of the enemy (foreigners) are already come in, & continuing to do so in numbers. Their army near Monmouth—ours at Hopewell approaching them.

If any considerable news comes to hand, I shall do myself the Honor to send it to you by express.

My respects to your Lady, to Col. Benson, & believe me to be with much esteem and great respect, Dear Governor, Your much oblidged & very H Serv't

W. Malcom.

My respects *to Genl. Scott if* with you.

[To G. C.]

[No. 1548.]

George Herkemer Protests Against Injustice and Persecution.

Canajoharra ye 30th of June 1778.

May it Please Your Excellency: Whereas I Have Received an Information from the Council of Appointment that the Third Teusday of June was assigned for my Appearing with Some others, Before said Council to answer a Charge Laid Against me for Countinencing and offering assistance to Certain Subjects of this State to go off to the Enemy: The Charge I Absolutely Deny, But as an Accused Person's own assertion, Can Have no weight in Clearing Himself, Should Have Been Exceeding Glad To Had a Hearing Before S'd Council with my accusers face To face, when I Doubt not, but the True Cause of So many fals accusations being Laid against Sundrie Persons of this County with myself, would Fully appear to Proceed from a malicious Principle, Seeking to Destroy the Carracters of Particular Persons, whom the Council of Appointment Hath Honnoured with Commitions in The Civil Administration of Justice with a View to Have them Ousted of Their Commitions, that They may Have them themselves; as for my Part their is nothing more agreeable to me than that The People Should be Fully Satisfyed with Such as Have the Administration of justice over them, But as I am Fully Convinced The whole Cause of Such Complaints Proceed from a Few that are Seeking to Have All Authority Invested in themselves, who It is Plainly Verifyed amoungs us Have Never acted any thing Great In Defence of their Country or in Uniting the People, but Some of them Have Done much In Creating Divisions and Desturbing the common peace of the county for which reasons I Cannot Submit to their Unjust Censures, So far as to Condesend To Lay Down a Commision the Council of Appointment Have Honoured me with,

Unless They Should Order it So. They Deprived me of a Hearing this time by Detaining the Notification from me till after the Time appointed for meeting. I would Farther Inform your Excellency, that I Have been Laid under Restrictions in bounds for Some Time Past, By which I am much Damaged in Prosecuting my Own Private Affairs and Intirely Prevented from acting any Thing In the Common Defence of my Country, which I Should be Glad your Excellency would Take notice of. In Case your Excellency and the Council of Appointment think Proper to have the matter Examined Into Farther must Beg the Favour of those who Send it, to Transmit the Order by Such Hands as will more Faithfully Deliver it. To be Particular I was Taken before Our Committee, and by their Resolve was Sent to Goal for Nothing, But Having the Peace sworn against me, By one who was Endeavoring to Bring me under the Carracter of a tory, whom I Did Threaten in a Passion, which was Anough to move almoss any thing that had the Least Spirit or Sense of the Consequence of Such a Character; not withstanding I offered any Bail that Should be Required was Confined in Prison a month and then Taken Out and Bound Under the Obligation of Five Thousand Pounds for my Good Behavour and Bound to the Limits of my own Farm, Under which Circumstance I Still Remain; From which I Beg Your Excellency would Order A Release or Direct Some Proper Authority to Examine the Cause of Such Proceedings and acquit or Condemn as it Shall appear Consistant with justice. Should Have made my Complaint before but Expected the Court of Justice would Before Now Have Been Opened but Now it Seem Someth Remote. From Your Excellencies Most Humble and Obedient Serv't

George Herkemer.

[To Gov. George Clinton.]

[No. 1549.]

THE SITUATION IN TRYON COUNTY.

General Ten Broeck Reports that the Militia Are Slow in Coming In—The Unadilla Expedition.

Albany 30th June 1778.

Sir, I hereinclosed send your Excellency Copy of a letter & affidavit Rec'd yestarday from Tryon County.

Yestarday I Rec'd a letter from Colonel Klock Informing me that the field Officers of Tryon County are Unanimously for an Expedition to the Unindillo; they Judge 1000 men necessary & Offer to furnish 400 men.

Of the Detachment ordered to the Westward which is to Consist of 600 men nearly, only 200 have marched to that Quarter—at a meeting of my Field Officers last Wednesday I Entreated them to Exert themselves to furnish their Respective Quotas; what Effect this will have time will learn, but very [few] men have come in since—the Court martial sets to morrow I hope this will bring them on. General Stark tells me he thinks he will be able to furnish about 200 men & that he will afford every other assistance in his power. With great Esteem I Remain Your Excellency's most Obedient & most hum'le Servant

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

STATEMENT OF BARNABAS KELLY.

German Flatts June 26th 1778.

Sir, Yesterday evening our Scout came in from the Lake where Henry Herkemer lived, and on their return at the upper end of the Lake, they was overtaken by one Barney Kelley who lived *at Brooks's*, at the Butter Nuts, who is come here with the

Scout, and is now here with us; the said Kelley being duely Sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God deposeth as follows; That soon after the Battle at Cobus Kill, he the said Kelly, was at the Butter Nuts; about 40 white men & two Indians who desired the said Kelly to go with them, who told them that if he was to go, he would not go in their company upon which they told him, that if he did not go then, he would be obliged to go, as well as the rest at the Butter Nuts, the next time they came. They bought about 17 Head of Horned Cattle of Brooks, Garret, Johnson & Napp, & about seven hundred weight of Cheese for which they gave them notes upon Butler; and of Capt. Service, Sir John Johnson's Uncle, they got about 40 or 50 Scipple of Flour, & he says Capt. Service sent to them, that they should come & fetch it; & he says that one Carr who lives at Major Edmeston's sent them word that he had 40 Skipple of Corn, for them, but whether that they got it or not he did not learn. That at Pougataukan Pocpacken & Cashistan on the Delaware, they got about 70 Head of Cattle and some Horses, and that about 60 or 70 of the Inhabitants of those places, Joined the Enemy at Ocquagoe; and he further declareth that one John Snow, told said Kelly at the Butternuts, that one McGinnes who lived on the Mohawk River, was sent by Butler to Ocquagoe & John Young to Tuenadella, to provide provisions for Butler's Army, against he came, and further he heard that Joseph Brandt had been with Butler at Skeemonk, about two days Journey from Ocquagoe, since the Battle at Cobus Kill, to see what kept Butler so long behind, and it was supposed to be occationed by the Country's being Alarmed; and he further declareth, that he heard John Young at the Butter Nuts, read a Proclamation from Butler, desireing all the friends to Government to Join him, and to

bring in all their Cattle together with their Wifes & families, and they should be kindly received by the said Butler; and as far as said Kelly could learn, it was Brandt's intention only to gather provission, and to get people for Butler's Army and to get the Indians from Fort Hunter, and not fight or make any alarm if possible to avoid it. But on the Indians driving the Cattle from Cobus Kill, and the Militia following them, they was obliged to fight, and further he heard that the Indians had taken five prisoners at the Battle at Cobus Kill, and Brandt asked the prisoners whether they Chose to be seperated among the Indian Families, or sent to Niagara to wait for an exchange, but they told Brandt they would go to Niagara and wait for an Exchange, as they knew the Continental Troops had three prisoners for one; and said Kelly farther declareth; that he heard say, that when Butler Joins Brandt, their army will be about 1,000 strong and that as far as he could learn, they intend to fall in upon some part of the Mohawk River; after the Battle at Cobus Kill Brandt heard that the Militia was to slay him at Youghams on the Susquehana, on which Brandt took 5 Indians with him, and went to Cherry Valey to know the truth, and that they met two men, one of whom was an express and that they killed one & took the other prisoner; and the man they took prisoner was a Black Smith, & he heard say that Brandt said he was sorry they had killed the other for he was a good Kings man, & said Kelly declareth That for the good of the Inhabitants & the County in General, and the preservation of his own Life, was the cause of his comeing in and further the deponent saith not.

His
Barnabas X Kelly
mark

r, I should think it requisite, if you think proper, that this ›unt that Kelly has sworn should be sent to the General. I your Humble Serv't

Peter Pellinger Col.

›y)

[No. 1550.]

Memorandum of Continental Bills Counterfeited.

lls.	1775		1776			1777		1778
	May	November	February	May	July	Febry.	May	April
	*					*		*
				*			*	*
					*			
							*	
›ds			*			*		*

[No. 1551.]

Memorandum as to Josiah Hunt.

[June, 1778.]

Memorandums for Genl. Gates.

'osiah Hunt was taken at Maronick between the Lines— ›ught to Hogg Pen Ridge by Capt. Barker. His Horse Sadle Bridle taken by the Capt. & converted to his own Use. The soner sent to Poughkeepsie. Charged with small Offences & iled by the Com'rs.

Capt. Bill's Company is ordered to White Plains and Orange unty left without a Guard. Write to Genl. Washington on the bject & speak to Genl. Gates.

[No. 1552.]

THE BATTLE OF MONMOUTH.

Dr. Treat Forwards a Description Written by Colonel Biddle.

*Sir, The following is an authentic acc't of the Battle fought on the 28th of June between a Detachment of the Grand Army commanded by Genl. Lee and the flower of the Brittish Forces.

Coll. Biddle author of this Intelligence writes as follows:

On the 28th our advanced Detachment commanded by Genl. Lee with the Jersey militia, attacked the Rear of the Enemy near Monmouth Court house—at first our Troops retired, but on his Excellency Genl. Washington coming up, it seem'd to animate our brave Soldiers, who behav'd with the greatest Resolution and Bravery, drove the Enemy's Rear which consisted of the Granadiers, Guards, and Hylanders, who retired in great Confusion, leaving a number of Dead and wounded on the Field—among the first of which is Coll. Moncton, Abercrombie and other officers, and in the night march'd of so presipitatly as to leave at the Court House, 50 wounded Granadiers several officers and the few of the Prisoners, they had taken from us.

From the best opinion, I can form, of their loss, it must have been 200 kill'd 100 Prisoners and about 700 wounded, and both before and since many deserters have come in, of the latter 500—already at Philad'a—our loss was about 30 kill'd and 120 wounded, of the first Coll. Kinmer, and major Dickinson, of the latter Coll. Wessen dangerously, Lt. Coll. Barber badly, but hop'd not dangerous, Coll. Livingston, Coll. W. Steward, & Coll. Derkie all Slighly, or not mortal.

The. Genl. [Washington] Family distinguish'd themselves; Coll. Lawrence and Coll. Hamilton had their Horses shot under them,

*This document is not dated.—STATE HISTORIAN.

Coll. Fitsgerald slightly wounded—and the rest of the greatest use in the action.

Our artillery was remarkably well serv'd and contributed much to the Rout Genl. Wayne is much prais'd, for Bravery & Conduct, and indeed the whole army showed a most noble Spirit, and had the Enemy been farther from the Sea a general Defeat might follow but they have hastened to Sandy Hook as they are out of reach, our army marches immediatly Northward. I am sir Your most humble Serv't

M. Treat.

His Excellency George Clynton Esqr. Gov'r State New York, Pokepsie.

[No. 1553.]

Colonel Snyder Looking After the Disaffected in Ulster County.

[June — 1778.]

Sir, Agreeable to Brigade orders to me and Coll. Cantyn, Directed for Ráising the one fourth of our Regiments for Service agreeable to order of 2nd Instant, I have ordered out the men and they marched the 9th Instant for the purpose of apprehanding the Disaffected and assist and Protect the Good Inhabitants; and I have, for want of orders, ordered the officers of the Party to agree with the Inhabitants for Subsistence for his men. I, therefore, Desire your Excellency's order how to Provide for Subsistance and how and what Rate and where, pay Shall be obtained; the Number out [of] my Regiment Now Entered in Service is 70 men Exclusive officers, and those that are actually Employed in Rebuilding Kingston. This by your hum'e Serv't in heast

[No. 1555.]

NEW YORK AND VERMONT.

Citizens of Brattleboro Hopeful for a Speedy Solution of the Difference—Violence Feared.

Brattleborough 1st July 1778.

May it please your Excellency, The Committees of Guilford and Brattleborough having sent circular Letters to every Town of any Note, in the County of Cumberland, together with Copies of your Excellency's Letter to Messrs. Israel Smith and Micah Townsend, recommending it to the Friends of New York State to transmit to your Excellency a Roll of Persons most proper for civil Officers, to be laid before the Council of Appointment: We being for that Purpose duly authorized by such of the Inhabitants of the Towns of Hinsdale, Guilford, Halifax, Brattleborough, Putney, Westminster, Rockingham, Springfield & Weathersfield as are attached to the State of New York, have with as much Candour and Impartiality as is in our Power, made the inclosed Roll, and beg leave to recommend the several Persons therein named to your Excellency, and the honorable the Council of Appointment as the most proper for the Offices mentioned in the Roll.

The County being divided into three Parties has occasioned our recommending only so many Persons as are absolutely necessary in administering Justice; thinking it more elegible to make additions when the Circumstances of the County shall render it expedient, than to have such as are not qualified for their Stations.

We also inclose a List of military Officers, which was obtained in this method: the Companies elected their Captains and Subalterns, who chose the Field & Staff officers & made Returns of the Officers to us.

A M

Cannon							Royals			Carriges							
										Travelling			Garrison				
Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total
9	3	6	4	3	4	11	4 2-5	4	4	8	4	4	9	3	6	4	

Empty paper Cartriges							Paper Cartriges fill'd								
Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number
9	757	6	574	3	313	1644	9	94	6	168	3	100	362	9	16

Priming Wires							Tompkins							Tube Boxes					
Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number
9	3	6	4	3	4	11	9	3	6	4	3	4	11	9	1	6	3	3	4

Commissaries Stores

Barrels of							Boxes of		Tierces	Gallons	Hogsh
[illegible]	rk	Wer	[illegible]	ip	shels pease	Cattle	idles	p	e	n	[illegible]

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Cannon							Royals			Carriges							
										Travelling			Garrison				
Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total
9	3	6	4	3	4	11	4 2-5	4	4	3	4	4	9	3	6	4	

Empty paper Cartriges							Paper Cartriges fill'd								
Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number
9	757	6	574	3	313	1644	9	94	6	168	3	100	362	9	16

Priming Wires							Tompkins							Tube Boxes					
Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Total	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number	Caliber	Number
9	3	6	4	3	4	11	9	3	6	4	3	4	11	9	1	6	3	3	4

Commissaries Stores

Barrels of					shels pease	Cattle	Boxes of		Tierces	Gallons	Hogsh
r	rk	wer	t	p			dles	p	e	n	ndy

Men—he has chosen to decline serving in that office at present, seeing it can not be of Disservice to the State of New York.

As soon as it can conveniently be obtained we shall transmit to your Excellency a Return of the Inhabitants in the Towns we represent, with an account of their Principles—whether for the State of New York—Vermont—or neuters.

We beg leave to return our most sincere thanks to your Excellency and the honorable the Senate and General Assembly for your Proclamation of the 23d of February last, and for the salutary Measures taken for restoring Peace and internal Tranquility to this and the other Counties mentioned in the said Proclamation.

We are Your Excellency's Most Obed't Serv'ts Signed by Order

Pelatiah Fitch Chairman.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

P. S. As a Supplement to the Protest formerly forwarded to your Excellency, we inclosed a Paper signed by a number of the Inhabitants of Halifax.

[No. 1556.]

Association of Exempts at New Windsor.

Wee the Subscribers being under the age of fifty five years who have held Commissions, have not been reapointed to our respective Ranks of Office or being between the ages of fifty and fifty five years do hereby Severally Engage that wee will respectively on all Occasions obey the Orders of our respective Commanding Officers and will in Cases of invasion or incursions of the Enemy or Insurrection march to repel the Enemy or Suppress Such Insurrection So as that wee Shall not when Called out be annexed to any other Regiment or Company or be under

Imediate Command of any other than our own officers and we have already recomended Mathew Du Bois for Captaine, nes Burnett for first Leivt, John L. Moffit for Second Leivt, e do now recommend William Edmonston for Ensign. New ndsor Ulster County July the 1th 1778.

Mathew Du Bois, James Burnet, Jno. L. Moffat, James Du-is, John Burnet, James Dinston, John Finley, Jeduthan Bel-ap, Alexander Denniston, Benjamin Youngs, Henry Palmer, cob Wiggins, Jonathan Lee, Isaac Hodge, Samuel Jennings, illiam Edmonston, John Davis, William Gibson, Thomas Bur-t, Jno. McClaghry, Rosbart ——*, George Johnston, James augh, Nathan Smith, John Elliot, Robert Smith, John Gallo-y, Robert Bow ——*, Jacob K. Duryee, William Steymets, muel Hallock, Isaac Stonehouse, James Bell.

Persons names that refuse to Joyn the associated Company in w Windsor Precinct.

Nathaniel Liscomb, James Horton, Silvenes Dusenberie, Will-n Ellison, John Ellison, Cornelius Wood, Joseph Belknap, omes Belknap, John Waugh, James Patten, Hugh Humphrey, hn Johnson, John Belknap.

[No. 1557.]

PETER R. LIVINGSTON REJECTED.

neral Ten Broeck Declares he is not a Proper Officer to Command the Unadilla Expedition—Brigade Orders.

Albany 1st July 1778.

Sir, I had the Honor to write your Excel'y yesterday—the ople in Tryon County are much for the Enterprize to Unin-lo, they have Requested me to appoint the Officer to Command

* Indecipherable.

it, It fell to Colonel Peter R. Livingston's Tour to Command the Detachment of militia Ordered the 12th Ultimo, now in Tryon County at Schohary & going thither, and he has this day left Albany for that Purpose, Your Excellency will permitt me in Confidence to Inform you that I have a variety of Reasons which Induce me to believe he is very Improper to Command any Troops that may be sent to Unindillo; nor am I Singular in this opinion having advised with some Gentlm. on the Subject. In Order, therefore, to Obviate the Difficulty arising from his being in Tryon County which does not leave it in my power to send another militia Colonel out of Tour, I beg leave to Suggest to your Excellency, a wish to have a Continental officer to Command on the Enterprize, and if one of less Rank is sent then Col. Livingston, he will come away & thus Extricate us from the Embarrasment we are under, Perhaps Lt. Colonel Willett may be proper, and if you think so, he might be sent up with a line from your Excel'cy to General Stark Requesting that he may have the Command.

As the time for which the militia now in that Quarter were ordered out will Expire on the 23d Instant, the necessity of Hastning an officer to take the Command is so Evident that I need not Enlarge upon it. I take the liberty to Inclose your Excellency Copy of the Brigade Order Issued the 12th Ultimo & am with great Regard Your Excellency's most Obedient Servant

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

His Excel'cy George Clinton Esqr.

Brigade Orders.

The depredations lately Committed by the Enemy to the Westward and in Tryon County and the Apprehensions of farther Incursions on the Innabitants in those parts, it is become necessary that a Body of the Militia of my Brigade be Embodied for

the protection and defence of our Brethren in those parts and to relieve those of my Brigade now in actual service in Tryon County & at Schohary.

The General orders into actual service for this purpose one fourth part of the several Regiments Command by Cols. Robert Van Rensselaer, Van Ness, Nicoll, Killian Van Rensselaer, Van Den Berg Schuyler, Van Alstyn, Van Bergen & Whiteing.

This detachment to continue in service for the space of one month, to be Computed from the time the men shall arrive at Albany, then to be relieved by an equal number of men from the several Regiments if the service shall require it, and to be formed into one Regiment—the field Officers to be furnished from the following Regts. vizt.—Col.——one Col.——one Lt. Col.——Col.—one Major, the men to be compleatly armed and Equipped and to provide themselves with provisions for their Subsistance on the March from their respective places of abode to the City of Albany, and for which they will be allowed a reasonable Compensation. The several Regiments (Exclusive of the Field Officers to be furnished as above), are also to furnish other officers in proportion to the number of men given by each respective Regiment Estimateing sixty men to a Company Includeing non Commissioned Officers, and to be taken from the Classes agreable to the directions of the Militia Law.

The General expects that the men will be at Albany on Tuesday the 23d Instant June.

The Commanding Officers of the several Regiments are immediately after Compleating the detachments to be made in Consequence of these orders, to proceed to form detachments for their relief who are to be ready to march at the expiration of the month, [illegible] no orders to the Contrary be received.

The Associated Exempts are to hold themselves in readiness to march at a moments warning, as it is probable the whole Corps will soon be called into the Field. The Commanding Officers of the several Regiments will reflect, and it is the General's wish, that they will apprise the other Officers and the privates of their respective Regiments, that by the Militia Law, whenever the Militia are Called into service, they are Subject to Martial Law. and that every person who shall be called into service, and who upon being notified thereof either personally or by notice at his usual place of abode, shall refuse to march is liable to be apprehended and tried for desertion.

Given at Albany June 12th 1778.

Ab'm Ten Broeck B. Genl.

Albany 24th June 1778.

At a Meeting of Field Officers of Genl. Ten Broeck's Brigade held for the Purpose of Establishing the Rotation of Duty on Detachments the Lott No. 1, or first Tour, fell to Colonel Peter R. Livingston, to Lieutenant Colonel Jacob Ford, & to Major Jacob Van Schaick, & I do hereby appoint the said Colonell Peter R. Livingston Lieut. Col. Jacob Ford & Major Jacob Van Schaick to the Command of the above Detachment.

Ab'm Ten Broeck, Brig'dr General.

[No. 1558.]

Bernardus Swartwout Exempt from Militia Duty While Engaged in Collecting Taxes.

[July — 1778.]

It being necessary that Bernard's Swartwout Constable shoud continue at Home to compleat collect'g the Tax, attend several legal Processes by him executed & now depend'g & other public Business His Excell'cy the Gov'r directs that he do not march w'th the pres't Detachm't of militia until further Orders.

[No. 1559.]

James Sears Also Exempt.

July 2d 1778.

This is to Certify that I have Employed James Sears to Dey a quantity of Thread for me to make up Soldiers Cloaths.

Peter T. Curtenius Commiss'y to the State of N. York.

To Whom it may Concern.

[No. 1560.]

THE GOVERNOR ASSISTS TEN BROECK.

Approves of the Choice of Marinus Willett for the Unadilla Expedition—Schuyler to be Consulted.

Poughkeepsie 2d July 1778.

Sir: I have received your Letters of 20th & 27th June & the 1st Instant with their several Inclosures. In the first, you mention that Genl. Starke writes to me fully on the Subject of the Expedition ag't the Enemy at Unnidilla which you & he conceive practicable. I have not been favoured with his Letter; wherefore I conclude it must have misscarried & begg you to mention this Circumstance to him. The only Letter I have received from Genl. Starke is Dated the 21st June, which barely mentions his having ordered scouts to be sent out from Cherry Valley to reconitre the Country & the Enemy's Strenghth to enable him to form a Judgment of the practicabillity of the Measure of which he promises to inform me on their Return.

I am sorry that any Consideration shoud have induced you to have intrusted an Officer with so important a Command in whom the greatest Confidence as well in his Integrity as abillitie cannot be placed. It might in my Oppinion easilly been avoided. It woud have been justifiable on this Occasion to have contrived a less Important Command & thereby complied with the Rota-

tion of Duty by giving it to him & fixed upon a suitable Person for the present Service. For whether your Jealousy is well or ill founded, the want of Confidence which naturally results from it may be fatal should it prevail among the Soldiery. I have wrote to Colo. Willet to come to me immediately & if he can be spared & will consent, I will send him to Genl. Starke to be employed on this Service; if not you must at all Events give the Command to an Officer in whose Integrity the most perfect confidence can be placed. The Commissioners of Indian Affairs for fear of any bad consequences ought in my Oppinion to be consulted on the Subject of this Expedition & as far as you may have the Management of it I expect you will take their Sentiments. I am Sir with great Regard Your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Genl. Ten Broeck.

P. S. I should be glad to know the Day this Party is to march for Unidilla as it may be expedient to make a small movement towards Delaware.

[No. 1561.]

Clinton Receives News from Washington on the Battle of Monmouth in a Roundabout Way.

Peekskill 3d June [July] 1778.

Sir, Yesterday I bro't from Head Quarters White Plains a Letter from Genl. Gates for Genl. Glover at West Point inclos'g as was intended, Copy of Letter from Genl. Washington, 29th June Duplicate, of which Genl. Glover was desired to forward to your Excellency—unfortunately on the Letter being opened, the Inclosures had been mistakenly covered—the Copy intended was omitted—Genl. Gates hav'g been good eno' to suffer me to take minutes of the Letter—I have it in my Power to send your Excel-

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Marinus Willett

[No. 1562.]

Cadwallader Colden Refuses to Take the Oath of Allegiance to the State.

State of New York Ss,

To his Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the State of New York, General and Commander in Chief of the militia and admiral of the navy of the same.

May it please your Excellency. In pursuance of an act of the Legislature of this State, Entitled "An act more effectually to prevent the mischiefs arising from the Influence and Example of persons of Equivocal and Suspected Characters in this State" we do hereby certify your Excellency that Cadwallader Colden, of the County of Ulster, Esquire, hath appeared before us and being by us tendered the Oath in the said act Contained did refuse to take the same, and that unless your Excellency shall think proper to detain him for the purpose of exchanging him for any of the Subjects of this State in the power of the enemy, we Shall Cause him to be removed to some place within the enemies Lines.

We remain your Excellency's very Humble Servants,

Egb't Benson
Jos'e Strang
Zepha. Platt
} Commiss'rs for Conspiracies &ca.

Poghkeepsie 4th July 1778.

[No. 1563.]

Colonel John Butler Promises Immunity to Lieutenant Elisha Scovell.

Westmoreland 5th July 1778.

This doth hereby Certify that Lieut. Elisha Scovell has Surrender'd his Garrison with all his people to Government and to re-

main as Neuteral during this present Contest with Great Britain and America, on Consideration of which Colonel John Butler Superintendent of the Six Nations of Indians their allies &c., with Kayingwarto the Chief of the Sanake [Seneca] Nation and the other Chief Warriors of the Six Nations do promise that they Shall live in the Quiet Possession of their Places with their Families and Shall be daily protected from Insult as far as lies in their Power and provided they Should be taken it is our Desire that they may forthwith be Released.

[Seal] John Butler.

Kayingwaurto.

*[Totem of the Turtle Tribe of the Seneca Nation.]

A List of the Cattle taken from the Company under the command of Lieut. Elisha Scovell.

Daniel Ingersall, 1 valuable Mare; David Smith, 1 Horse, 1 pare of Oxen, & 9 Sheep; James Gorduce 1 Cow & 4 Horses; Joseph Baker, 1 Horse & 14 Hogs; Philip Waindemuth; Christopher Waindemuth, 2 draft Horses, 2 Mares, 2 Colts 3 Cows & 7 Hogs; John Waindemuth 2 Cows 4 Young Creatures 3 large Hogs & 4 lesser Hogs; Jesse Lee 2 Horses, 1 young Colt, & 1 Cow; Peter Harres 1 Yoke of Oxen & 1 Horse; Mr. Anker 4 Creatures; Lieut. Elisha Scovell, 6 large Horses 8 Oxen & 5 Cows.

Westmoreland 5th July 1778.

Lieut. Elisha Scovell.

[No. 1564.]

General McDougall Writes of Army Affairs to Governor Clinton.

Fish Kill July 5th 1778.

Dear Sir, I am this moment favored with yours of this date, accompanying one to our Delegates. I believe an opportunity will offer in a few Hours. I have not had the Particulars of the action on Sunday last; all I can learn with Certainty to be relied on is, that it Issued greatly in our favor and that the Enemy have Embarked our Army was last night expected at Newark. Its Rout, from thence is to Paramus, Kakiat and Kings Ferry. I cannot say I am altogether easey about General Gates Position; or the River, should the Enemy Push for either. But as I called the principal work at West Point, Fort Arnold, all I could say to him on the Security of either would be to Litle effect. They must therefore take their change.

Mrs. McDougall is absent, but I can answer for the return of her Compliments to Mrs. Clinton. I am Dear Sir Your affectionate Hble. Servant

Alex'r McDougall.

[To G. C.]

[No. 1565.]

THE MASSACRE AT WYOMING.

The Citizens of Goshen Highly Alarmed—Their Appeal to the Governor—His Reply.

Goshen July 5 1778.

May it Please Your Excell'y, A Few Minutes Past Capt. Little arived here from Minisink with the disagreeable news of Wyoming on the River Sisquehanah being in the Possesion of our most Inveterate Enemy. His Information is by a Person sent Express from Lackawaney about twelve or fifteen Miles from Sis-

quehannah who says, that two Expresses had arived at Lackawanah with Information that Butler & Brandt with a large body of Troops arived at Wyoming & summoned two small forts, who refused to Surrender, but Imprudently turned out & gave Battle to the Enemy, who soon reduced them to the necessity of surrendering themselves with the whole Settlement Prisoners of War. These Accounts together with the late Inteligencies from Coshethton, gives the People of Minisink so much uneasiness that many Families are moveing off & we have the greatest reason to believe that unless something be done more Effectualy to repel the Progress of the Enemy our Frontiers will soon be reduced to the greates distress.

Many of the Militia who are now placed as guards to the Frontiers, have neither Guns nor Amunition & have it not in their power to purchase, because neither Guns or Lead are to be had; & a Few are not able to buy. It is, therefore, submited to your Excell'y whither it would not be best to deliver a quantity out of the State Magazien for supplying the Deficiency as well as some general direction for the more Consistent movements of our Militia. We are Your Excellencies most Obed't & Hum'le Serv'ts; Henry Wisner Benj'n Tusten Ju'r Moses Hatfield Issac Nicoll.

Poughkeepsie 6th July 1778.

Gentlemen, I have received your Letter of yesterday with the disagreable Intelligence of the Enemy's having reduced the Settlement of Wyoming & made the Inhabitants Prisoners of War.

It is long since I ordered the one fourth of two Companies out as a Guard for the Frontiers & to gain Intelligence of the movements & Designs of the Enemy. This at the Time was esteemed

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only to make Regular Returns of the Quantity of Amunition wanted for their Regts. & give an order for it in Favour of their Qu'r Master on the Commissioner of Military Stores; this Backed by a Warrant from the Gov'r will draw the necessary Supply of Amunition made upon Catridges ready for Use. Mr. Wisner might have informed you of this as a Law passed the Legislature at their last meet'g for this Purpose.

If the Militia Law & the Genl. Orders already issued, are complied with, the Militia will move with great good Order & Consistencey. They are to be formed into eight classes The Rotation of Duty of each Class fixed, they are to be compleatly armed & accoutred, & held in the most Perfect Readiness to march at a Moment's warning & in Case of an Invassion or Insurection, to march without waiting orders & repell the Enemy; making Report of what shall be done to the Governor. No orders therefore can be issued more consistent with the Safety of the Frontiers or by which the Force of the Militia can be more readilly collected to the Point where they may be most wanted for that purpose. I am Your Most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

[To Messrs. Henry Wisner, Benj'n Tusten Jur., Moses Hatfield and Isaac Nicoll.]

[No. 1566.]

James Armitage's Deposition in Relation to Tories and Indians on the Frontier.

Personally appeared before me, Abraham Tenbroeck, Esqr., one of the Justices of the Peace, for the city and County of Albany, James Armitage,* of Acra in said county, coach and Chair maker, who being duly Sworn deposeth and Saith: about Six

*This deposition belongs to the letter, dated July 11, 1778, General Ten Broeck to George Clinton. See page 524.—STATE HISTORIAN.

weeks ago two men came to his house armed; he has forgot their names; they said they came from Coymans Patent, and were going to Paghkatakean to look for Land;—they Returned in four or five days; he was not at home; they told his wife if he Stayed at home and remained Quiet, he would not be molested—about a week or ten days ago one of them came with a Stranger again to his house, and said they were pursued by the Rangers; the deponent Said if the Rangers came they would take him & them both, as he was Suspected to be a Tory by some people, and advised them to go to lay at his neighbours, Joshua Weekes house. That they were on their way to Paghkatakean which is about Eighteen miles from Batavia—that last Wednesday an unknown person passed his house upon the Road to Cattskill, he had a Coloured Riffle Shirt on & was armed &c. Said person Returned last friday about nine or ten o'Clock in the morning; that after eating breakfast he followed the deponent to the Garden, but previous to this, in presence of Joshua Weeks, Said person began a discourse, by observing that many were forced to be Tories by harrassing of them; that one Smith went to N. York the winter before last and Resided there, and afterward returned home and meant to live quietly, that one Capt. Snider threatned to take him up, that Smith hearing of it went off and Joined Burgoyne; that before Burgoyne's Surrender Said Smith went off with five hundred Tories; that Said Smith was a Major and Super Intendant of ye Indians, and he wish'd that Smith had all the Tories. This passed in presence of Joshua Weeks; the person then requested to Speak with the deponent in private; they then went down to the Garden; the person told the dependent that the two men who were at his house some time before, told him the deponent was a friend to Government; and that he had heard from Said

two men, a Great deal of Weeks; that he was a Strong Rebel; he then pulled out of his pocket a letter Signed John Butler, and directed to Lord Howe dated 7th June to the following purpose "My Lord, these are to let you know I am now in Readiness with 15,000 Indians and Government men, and hoping your Lordship will forward the army and fleet on the 15th of July I shall begin my Ruptures and hopes to Join you at Cattskill." He then pulled out another letter and told the deponent he was direct from Butler, and was the Smith, who he had before made mention of, to the deponent and Weeks, and was a Major and Super Intendent of the Indians; this letter was directed to all the friends to Government, Signed John Butler, "desiring that they would come off Immediately and Join him, that if they did not, they must share the same fate as the Rebells as this was the last time of asking." He further Said that one of the men who was at the deponents house was now at Coeymans patent collecting all the men he could, and that he hoped said person would bring a considerable number with him. That they were to Join at Paghkatakean; and that he would advise the deponent to come off as soon as possible; that each man was to have four Shillings pr day from the time they left their own houses. He further Said that he commanded the Party at Cobus Kill & three of the friends to Government were killed owing to their not coming off; & that he had Seven prisoners and Swore he would have Peter Hagar, and the Beckers, and Sweep Schoharie Kill, and then he would come and take Weeks—he further Said he had Twenty-two Indians at the lower end of Batavia, and five hundred Indians & Government men back of the Mountains. That a Party is back of Cherry Valley, a party back of Schoharie, and the main body with Butler. The Deponent has frequently Seen

armed men Travelling to wards Batavia and has Reason to believe that many have gone off; that as the deponent lived in an exposed Situation he was obliged to disguise his Real Sentiments, and talk with the Enemies of his country as if he was one, in order to preserve his property and life; but upon Receiving the above Information he thought it his duty to make this discovery in order to prevent the Intended Evils that might arise, was the same to have been Kept Secret.

James Armitage.

Sworn before me this 6th of July 1778.

Ab'm Ten Broeck

Copy.

[No. 1567.]

GOVERNOR CLINTON WRITES PELATIAH FITCH.

And Makes a Calm Review of the Troubles Between Vermont and New York.

Poughkeepsie 7th July 1778.

Sir, I acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 1st Instant with the inclosed Returns of Civil and Military Officers. As the Council of Appointment have lately adjourned and as they reside in different Parts of the State I did not think proper to detain Mr. Sherburn until I cou'd convene them. You may rest assured, however, I shall call a Council with all possible Dispatch when your Returns will be laid before them and I have no Doubt but that they will appoint agreable to your Recommendation. As soon as the Commissions are made out I shall transmit them to you by Express.

We are still waiting with anxious Expectation the Result of our Application to Congress to interpose in this Affair and can impute our not receiving an Answer only to their being engaged in

those very Important Matters which you may easily suppose at present to engross their Attention. I have notwithstanding by a special Conveyance this Day informed them that Drafts were making under the Authority of the pretended State of Vermont to compleat Colo. Warner's Regiment, That tho we were willing that the main Business of advising means for settling the Controversy with the discontented Inhabitants on the Grants shoud be deferred 'till the more Important & Urgent Business of the Continent is so far compleated as to admit of Leisure, yet that for the present we must insist upon an immediate & positive disavowal of this extraordinary exercise of Authority and express Orders to Colo. Warner (their Officer) not to receive any of the Drafts into his Regiment or in any wise countenance the Measure.

I would still as upon a former Occassion earnestly recommend a firm and prudent Resistance to the drafting of Men, raising Taxes and the Exercise of every other Act of Government under the ideal Vermont State and in such Towns where our Friends are sufficiently Powerful for the Purpose I would advise the Entering into Associations for the mutual Defence of their Persons and Property against this Usurpation.

You will readilly perceive that until we have received the Answer of Congress & the Legislature have declared their Sense it is impossible for me to advise except only in general Terms. Your own Prudence and Discretion must determine the true Line of Conduct which I trust will be consistent with the sacred Obligations of Allegiance and the Characters of Men who dare oppose lawless Domination and Power whether attempted to be exercised by a Single Tyrant or a Missguided Multitude. I am with The most perfect Esteem Your Most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Palatiah Fitch *Esquire.*

[No. 1568.]

*George Clinton to Micah Townsend.**

[No. 1569.]

Requisition for Ammunition.

Poukeepsie July 7th 1778.

Sir, I am directed by his Excellency the Governor to request that you will furnish Lieut. Colo. Newkerk of Colo. McClaughry's Regt. with such quantity of ammunition as he may on the present emergency draw for in favor of his Quarter master for the use of the said Regt. on the Terms mentioned in the enclosed Copy of a Law passed the last Session. And upon your sending to his Excellency the Draft made on you by Lieut. Colo. Newkerk, he will back it with a warr't for your Justification. Yrs. &c.

Robt. Benson A. D. C.

Colo. Lasher.

[No. 1570.]

THE VERMONT QUESTION.

Governor Clinton Expresses his Views on the Subject to Gouvernour Morris.

Poughkeepsie 7th July 1778.

Dear Sir, I had prepared an Answer to your Letter of the 16th of June ere I received that of the 23d But before I had an Opportunity of forwarding it the latter came to Hand. I always considered Monied Matters as the most delicate & therefore took the Liberty of communicating the Contents of your Letters to our good Friend the Chief Justice who was kind enough to write you his Sentiments on the Subject which exactly coincided with my own mind & you will receive both Letters under one Cover.

* This letter is practically identical with that to Pelatiah Fitch, on the pages immediately preceding.—STATE HISTORIAN.

I am exceedingly concerned to learn that Congress have not yet taken up our Controversy with the discontented Inhabitants of the Grants, and that we are not of Course to speedilly Expect an Explicit Declaration of the Sense of Congress on that Subject. I easilly perceive that your time is much taken up with the very Important Affairs of the Continent at this Critical Period but I cant conceive how the great Work of Confederation can so fully employ the Attention of Congress especially as many of the States have not yet vested their Delegates with the necessary Powers on that Point as not to be able to afford a Moment to an Affair in which one of the States is so deeply Interested & the Honor & perhaps the future Peace of the whole so intimately concerned. You are sensible that Jealousies have from the first been entertained by many of the People of this State that the Inhabitants of the Grants were encouraged in their unwarantable Proceedings by at least Individuals in Congress & Servants of the public which I have Reason to fear were but too well founded. While these Jealousies were confined to Individuals they coud produce no great Evil, But, Sir, should they extend to the Body, and I am not without apprehensions they will, as well from the Slight & unsatisfactory Manner the Business was treated on a former Occassion, when a few Words only spoken in plain & explicit Language would in all probability have settled the whole Matter, as by Delay now, (when the Mallcontents are strenghthening their Cause by establishing & exercising the Powers of Government over the Subjects of this State), Shoud this be the Case it will necessarily occassion the loss of that Confidence which in our present Circumstances is so essential & which the good People have hitherto unreservedly placed in Congress & may be productive of Effects very Injurious to the Common Cause. I have this

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STATE HISTORIAN.

[No. 1572.]

And in a Letter to Congress Predicts Civil War, Unless Congress Intervenes.

Poughkeepsie, July 8th 1778.

Sir, I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's Letters of the 10th & 20th of June last and to inform you that the Legislature of this State have at their last meeting enacted Laws for appointing suitable Persons to procure military accoutrements for the Quota of Drafts for filling up the Continental Battalions raised under the Direction of this State—for suspending the Law for regulating Prices and for exempting from militia Duty Deserters from the British army & navy (not being Subjects of this State) and disqualifying them from acting as Substitutes in the militia during the present War; copies of these acts together with such others as have before been passed in consequence of recommendations of Congress and have not been already forwarded shall as soon as they are printed be transmitted to Congress.

It is with the utmost regret, Sir, I find myself constrained again to intrude upon the Deliberations of Congress, and to entreat their attention to a Matter of the greatest Importance & which requires their immediate Interposition.

The Disorders which have long prevailed in the Northeastern parts of this State; where the deluded Inhabitants have attempted a Separation from us, and to erect themselves into an Independent State under the Style of the State of Vermont, are fast approaching to a serious and alarming crisis, and unless Measures are speedily adopted to prevent it, we shall very soon be involved in a civil war.

As we have considered the whole continent eventually interested in the issue of this affair equally with ourselves, the Legis-

lature of this State were determined to use no compulsory meas for the reestablishment of their authority in that part of the country 'till we were previously favoured with the Sentiments and advice of Congress; and had these unhappy People contented themselves with barely denying our Jurisdiction, matters might have remained in that Situation 'till having expelled our external Enemy, Congress might then have entered upon the Business with more leizure and deliberation; but their Proceedings have of late been such, that we shall very soon, from mere motives of self defence be obliged to have recourse to arms.

The Inhabitants of several Towns within the claim of this pretended State distinguishing between the former and present Government of this, conscious that all their Grievances which they may have suffered arose from abuses under the former and that they had every Thing to expect from the Justice and Generosity of the Latter, have been constantly and warmly attached to us, and are confirmed in this attachment by the equitable Proposals in the Resolutions of both Houses of the 21st of Feby. last; and relying on us for assistance are determined at every hazard to resist this unwarrantable usurpation.

In consequence of an Act of the pretended Legislature of Vermont, a Draft of every fourth man throughout that Terrytory, including these Towns, are to be made to compleat Colo. Warner's Regiment (tho' in Justice to this Gentlemen I must observe it does not appear to have been done upon his application) and assessments are making in Order to raise a Tax. As the well affected Towns will refuse to furnish their respective aids either of men or money, under that usurped authority, Force will probably be used to compel them; which will be opposed by Force.

The Wisdom of Congress will naturally suggest to them what the consequence will be, and what a disagreeable Influence a contest of this kind may have, not only on the minds of the Inhabitants of this State, but upon the affairs of the whole Confedèration; and, therefore, trust it will command a proportionable degree of their care and attention to prevent this unhappy dispute from being bro't to so fatal an Issue.

Whether the very important matters now before Congress will admit them to enter fully upon the Business of this controversy is with them to determine; tho' I could wish it might not be deferred Longer. I must however for the present entreat at least a Resolution, expressly disapproving of the conduct of these People in this Instance, and a positive order to Colo. Warner not to receive any of the Drafts into his regiment. This appears to be necessary to prevent the immediate Shedding of Blood; and with out it I fear all those Calamities and misfortunes which are the natural attendants of a civil war. I have the Honor to be with the highest Esteem and respect Your Excellency's most Obed't Hum'e Serv't

Geo: Clinton.

His Excellency Henry Laurence Esqr. President of Congress.

[No. 1573.]*

[No. 1574.]

Governor Clinton Calls Gates' Attention to the Weak Condition of Fort Schuyler.

Poughkeepsie 10th July 1778.

D'r Sir, I inclose you a Copy of a Letter which I this Moment received from Colo. Gaansevoort, Commandant of Fort Schuyler.

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*See page 93, Volume II.

lature of this State were determined to use no compulsory means for the reestablishment of their authority in that part of the country 'till we were previously favoured with the Sentiments and advice of Congress; and had these unhappy People contented themselves with barely denying our Jurisdiction, matters might have remained in that Situation 'till having expelled our external Enemy, Congress might then have entered upon the Business with more leizure and deliberation; but their Proceedings have of late been such, that we shall very soon, from mere motives of self defence be obliged to have recourse to arms.

The Inhabitants of several Towns within the claim of this pretended State distinguishing between the former and present Government of this, conscious that all their Grievances which they may have suffered arose from abuses under the former and that they had every Thing to expect from the Justice and Generosity of the Latter, have been constantly and warmly attached to us, and are confirmed in this attachment by the equitable Proposals in the Resolutions of both Houses of the 21st of Feby. last; and relying on us for assistance are determined at every hazard to resist this unwarrantable usurpation.

In consequence of an Act of the pretended Legislature of Vermont, a Draft of every fourth man throughout that Terrytory, including these Towns, are to be made to compleat Colo. Warner's Regiment (tho' in Justice to this Gentlemen I must observe it does not appear to have been done upon his application) and assessments are making in Order to raise a Tax. As the well affected Towns will refuse to furnish their respective aids either of men or money, under that usurped authority, Force will probably be used to compel them; which will be opposed by Force.

Excellency has Rec'd; the time of those on duty will Expire in 11 or 12 days—how the Relieve will come on I don't know, the People Complain most Grievously to be Called out at this Season of the Year. I Inclose your Excell'cy James Armitage's* affidavit.

I am Informed that some new militia Commissions are sent up to Officers in this Brigade if I am Continued in Com'd (which I by no means Solicit for) I should be glad to know the names of such Officers as are appointed. Your Excellency will see the Propriety of this as it will otherwise be Impossible for me to know to whom to Issue my Orders with great Esteem I Remain Your Excellency's most Obed't & Humble Servant

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1576.]

Difficulties in Supplying Powder.

Fishkill July 11th 1778.

May it Please your Excellency, I'm Call'd upon by the Honourable Genl. Glover, Commanding officer of Fort Arnold, for one Hundred Barrells of powder, which I cant furnish immediately; Must have to send to Springfield for that Quantity; as the Distance is Greate it would be some time before it Could arrive; there is forty Barrells at Mr. Wisnor's Mills, twenty Miles the other side the North River, a place Calld Goshen; Eighteen Barrells is Continental the other twenty-two, belong to this State, which Cant be Delivered without your Excellency's Order; the State powder I'll Replace as soon as it arrives from Springfield; if your Excellency would be Pleasd to give an order for the Whole it will save a Journey of Going to the White Plains to git an

* See pages 525-528.

I fear that the accounts it contains is but too true & I am sorry to find by the Returns of that Garrisson (which I take for granted are also forwarded by him or General Starke to you) that that Fortress is so illy prepared to stand a Seige or even resist a sudden vigorous Assault. If the Enemy really mean any Thing Serious ag't that Quarter I presume Sir Henry Clinton's next Operations will be up the River. I am Sir with great Regard Your Most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

I mean to set out Tomorrow or next Day for your Camp if nothing extraordinary happens in the Interim to prevent me.

By Colo. Gansevoort's Return there appears to be

Privates fit for Duty	337
Artillery including Officers	32.

[To Gen. Gates.]

[No. 1575.]

The Commander of the Unadilla Expedition Not Yet Decided Upon.

Albany 11th July 1778.

Sir, I am Hon'd with your Excellency's fav'r of the 2d Instant. General Stark tells me he has wrote your Excel'cy no other letter on the Subject of the Expedition against the Enemy at Unindillo but that of the 21st June; he however told me what I wrote in my letter of the 20th. If Colonell Willett does not come up & if the Expedition takes place, I shall most Certainly appoint an other Officer to the Command—I have & shall farther Consult the Commissioners of Indian affairs on the Subject of this Expedition. When the party will march I do not yet know; as soon as I do I will let your Excell'cy know it. None of the militia have marched since I wrote you the 30th June last, which letter I hope your

Peace of our Frontiers disturbed. Genl. Washington's Army not having yet arrived I dare not withdraw the Militia from the Posts in the Highlands. Harvest being at Hand forbids the ordering & keeping out the whole or indeed a large Proportion of the Militia for any Space of Time. I dont know that any Thing more can be done but keep out those already ordered so stationed as to get the earliest Intelligence of the Enemy's Motions & occasionally to strenghthen them, if on the Approach of the Enemy it may appear necessary. I woud apprize you that strong Detachments are out towards Minissink & Peenpack from McClaghry's & Allison's Regts., between whom & Coll. Cantine a constant Communication shoud be maintained, for the Purposes of gaining Intelligence & Cooperating with each other. I expect Colo. Cantine to whom you will please to forward this Letter will increase the Guards on the Frontiers by ordering out a greater part of the Militia if he shall Judge it necessary, without waiting for further Orders. I must submit to you & him whether Gonsalus & Oosterhoudt ought not to be immediately secured. This will depend on their Charecters & other Circumstances. I am your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Colo. Levy Pawling & to be forwarded to Colo. Cantine.

[No. 1578.]

ECHOES FROM WYOMING.

Governor Clinton Receives Depositions from Several Men Who Came In from the Frontier—The Military Situation.

May it Please Your Excellency The frequent Confirmation of the Inteligencies which we gave you in our last as well as the unbounded *disaffection* & Plotings lately discoverd here made it

I fear that the a[illegible] [illegible]ates, for the E[illegible]
find by the R[illegible] [illegible] Dispatch in forwarding [illegible]
also forward[illegible] [illegible] Esteem Your Ex[illegible]
ress is so [illegible]
vigoro[illegible] John Ruddock, D[illegible] M[illegible]
ag't that [illegible]
w[illegible]
[illegible]

No. 1377.]

[illegible]NS ON THE FRONTIER.

[illegible]—*He Prefers Not to Order Out [illegible] Discretion to Colonel Cantine.*

Poughkeepsie the 11th July 177[illegible]

[illegible] received your Letter Dated 2 [illegible] from Colo. Cantine of yesterday [illegible] Letter addressed to the Inhabitants of [illegible] wrote by Order of the Anandago [illegible] Accounts of the Hostile Designs of the [illegible] Western Frontiers. By a Letter I [illegible] Gaansevoort, at Fort Schuyler, I am [illegible] Regular Troops from Canada & Indians [illegible] from whence they were directly [illegible] This Account which came to Colo. [illegible] his full Credit induces me to pe[illegible] [illegible]'s Affidavit, for I think it more than [illegible] seriously intend any Thing ag't that Post [illegible] Parties out on our Frontiers, constantly [illegible] to prevent the Militia from marching to [illegible]arrisson, which is, I am sorry to say, neither [illegible] well provided to resist a frmidable attack. [illegible] & unfavourable Period to have the

men are waiting your determination. We take the Liberty to subscribe Your Excell'ys most Obedient Serv'ts

Benj. Tusten Jur.,
Jacob Newkirk,
Henry Wisner.

Minisink July 10 1778.

P. S. Altho we have thought Proper to Dismiss the Regiments for the Present we have no reason to depend on any length of time from being excusd from a General alarm, even from Capt. Cuddeback's report which is the most Favourable account; therefore would take the liberty to suggest the Propriety of Ordering the Classes of Ulster & Orrange to the westward, if the Continental Troops have ariven in sufficient Numbers at the Posts on Hudsons River to admit of such a thing.

To His Excell'y George Clinton Esqr Governor of the State of New York, Poughkeepsie.

CAPTAIN CUDDEBACK'S STATEMENT.

Minisink July 10 1778.

Capt. Cuddaback on his Examination Says, that on Saturday last himself with 5 others were sent as Spies, to collect as far as Possible every Piece of necessary information as to the Strength, number & movements of the Enemy at Cosheighton; that on their arival at that place had a private Conferrence with one Solomon Decker, in whom he placed an intire Confidence, who informed him that as nearly as he was able to Judge from their appearance, about 250 Indians & Tories had Collected at Cosheighton, who had previously formed an expidition against Penepack & Minisink & that they had marched for those places, & he says their Plan *was to march* as privately as possible to Mongope

[Mongaup] River & there to divide into small parties & to allot certain parts of the Settlements to each respective Party then seperate & each party execute their villany at the same time, but when they got as far on their way as the mouth of Lakawack they were informed that a large number of militia had Collected at Minisink & they then thought proper not to proceed any farther down Deleware, but turned their attention toward a Small settlement on Lackawack where they murther'd a few, took some Prisoners, Cattle, Sheep & hogs, but the exact number of either, he did not know, as they went directly through the Country to Achuago, which pervented him of an opertunity of seeing them on their return; s'd Decker also informed the Examinant that there was still a few lurking villians of the party at Lackawack, which he judg'd was left as a party of observation and kept up a constant communication between that place & Achquago or wherever the above party had march'd to.

ROBERT JONES'S STATEMENT.

Menecinct 10th of July 1778.

Parsonally Appeard Before me Henry Wisner, Esqr., Robert Jones, and Says that he Left Albany the 8th Day of May Last, went from thence to Johnstown, Stayd their 3 Nights, went from thence to Conoughoharre, Stayd their one Night, then went to the Buttunnot or old Ingland Destrict and Stayd their 10 or 11 Days, at which time Joseph Brant Came their with Six Indians and 2 or 3 green Coat Soldiers; Stayd two Days; he orderd the Examinent with Nine famelies who livd at that place to go with him, if Friends to Goverment, if not to take ther own Resk; him Self and 4 famelies with S'd Brant went to Unedillah, the other

five Soon followed; Brant did not Insist on their going but would take their Cattle; Neither would protect them, unles they went with him; after that the Examinent and one John Faalkner went with S'd Brant to Anaghquago; after Being their Some time an Express Came from Butler to Brant, ordering him to march Immediately to Tyoga, which orders Brant Immediately obayd and Stayd Eight or Nine Days, Informing when returnd, that he had Been at a treaty; that the Indians Refusd to Join in an Expedition to the Northward unless they first ware assisted to Cut of the Inhabetents of Susquehanah, at which treaty it was agreed that Butler Should go to Wyoming and that Brant Should Stay at Anahquago, and that Brant in the mean time was to Collect all the provision he Could against the time Butler was to be at Anahquago; for that purpose Brant Cald togeather all the old Indians who Left the matter to him as to provision &c.

Brant then formed an Expedition against Lakawak for the purpose of Collecting provision and went one Day on his march, when an Express was Sent after him Requiring him to Return Immediately, on account that a party from the Northward was Expected to attact Unedillah. Brant Immediately Returnd and Dispached all the white men he Could to the assistanc of Unnedillah and 2 Days after being last Sunday, S'd Brant followed after, with all the Indians at that place; the Same Day five Indians arived at Aghquago and Gave Information of a Large Number of Sinckes [Senecas] on their march to the Same place to Joyn Brant; on Tuesday a Small number Collected whoo under the Command of Capt'n Jacobs (an Indian) followed after Brant; they left the Examinent at Anahquago; he made his Escape the Same Day; whoo on his march says he met about 20 Indians and white men with a Number of prisoners, which they told him they Got at Lakawak.

The Examinant also says that Butler is not to come down to Minisink (as he understood from Brant) but was to go from Wyoming on an Expidition against Cherry Vally & to be Joind by Brant, thinking it a favourable time for the Purpose as he understood the times of the Militia who guarded it is to expire next Fryday & he intends to attack it the Sunday Following. taken Before me the Day above written.

Henry Wisner.

P. S. If Your Excellency's Knowledg of the facts mentioned by the above Examinant should Incline you to think he ought to have his liberty & that he inteds Friendship for us you will Please to signify it.

HARMANES DUMOND'S STATEMENT.

Haramanis Dumon, of Poughkataken, being Duly Sworn Saith that on Wednesday the Eighth Instant he with Johannis Vanwagenen and Several other all Residenters of that Settlement. whent Down the River to Papaconk, at the Request of George Barnard; when they came to Johannis Barnard at Papaconk, they found about twenty Indians all arm'd, and about twenty Tories who ware, (as this Deponant Under Stood) to go Down the River to a place called Willdewemaugh [Williwemack] and their to be Joynd, by another party, thence To proceed to Laghawock and So on to Rochester and to Destroy all before them; only Such as Should Joyn them or lay Down their arms; and this Deponent farther Saith; that he Under Stood That their was a party Under the Command of Brant (the Indian) gon to Schogery, and another Party to Cherry Vally, and also another party Under the Com nd of Butler to Weomie and another party Commanded by Drum To Manising; the party who Intends for Rochester is to

be Joynd, by forty men Under the Command of Joh's Ostrout, and also another party Under The Command of Samuel Gunsalus.

Harmanes Dumond.

Sworn before me this tenth Day of July 1778.

Levi Pawling.

GOVERNOR CLINTON'S RESPONSE.

New Windsor Sunday 12th July 1778.

Gentlemen, I have this Moment received your Letter Dated the 10th with the Inclosures. I agree with you that [it] is highly necessary to keep out one Class at least of Colo. McClaghry's & Allison's Regts. on the Frontiers for the present and the whole held in the most perfect Readiness to join them if from the Intelligence you may receive it may appear necessary. I am now at this Place on my Way to see Genls. Washington & Gates; & my particular Business is to concert Measures for the Defence of the Frontiers; as soon as I return you shall have my further answer respecting the above two Regts; till when as Genl. Washington's Troops are not yet arrived I cannot alter my former Orders, but be assured they shall have strict Justice & Credit for the Extra Duty they may perform. I begg you will immediately forward by Express (the Express of which I will pay) the Substance of Jones' & Cuddeback's Information to Genl. Tenbroeck at Albany & to Colo. Cantine at Marble Town. I have Reason to believe the greater Part of what Jones Relates but as yet I cant advise you to release him.

Your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

[To Benj. Tusten Jur., Jacob Newkirk and Henry Wisner.]

[No. 1579.]

GENERAL SCOTT TAKES A GLOOMY VIEW.

Gathers up the State's Archives and Prepares to Leave Ulster County to the Invader.

Hurley, July 12th 1778.

Sir, The Situation of this Country is truly deplorable. Mischief already done at Laghawack. The Country breaking up and the Harvest probably abandoned. I think the Records & my family so unsafe here that I am moving off with them. I hope I shall not be too late. To leave so valuable a Country as this, without Defence, a Country which is a principal Grainery to the Army, nothing but the Want of Troops will in my Opinion justify. Your Knowledge, Sir, of its Situation proves it to be a frontier from Laghawack to Hudson's River. And will not 150 or 200 of the Miscreants who are back of Us be sufficient to break up this whole Extent of Country by falling on different places with different parties? For these reasons, Sir, give me Leave to suggest the propriety of immediately procuring 250 or 300 Troops for the protection of these Frontiers. And as the continental army must now be in suffic't force below I would suggest the removal of Colonel Graham's Corps, (which was raised for defence of the Frontiers) to this Quarter of the Country as proper. The Danger is in my Opinion greatly increased by Butler's late Success at Wioming and the Account I now have from the Mouth of a person just come from the westward, that a party of 300 of the Enemy was destined for Chamokin, & another of 150 or 200 coming up this way. Upon the whole, Sir, I fear the worst for this Country unless immediate Relief be afforded to it. Perhaps if the Inhabitants could be assured of immediate Relief they might be prevailed on to

delay their Harvest for some days and turn out fully for the protection of the Country till such Relief can be furnished. I am Sir with great respect Your Excellency's most obed't Serv't

Jno. Morin Scott.

To His Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State of New York.

[No. 1580.]

THE FRENCH ALLIANCE.

Congress Bestows Large Powers Upon Washington for the Purpose of Co-operating with the French Fleet.

Philadelphia 12th July 1778.

Sir, The present Circumstances of Public affairs affords me barely time for referring your Excellency to the inclosed Act of Congress of yesterday's date, empowering General Washington to call on the State of New York, and other States therein enumerated for such Militia as he shall think requisite for co-operating with Count d'Estaing, Commander of the French fleet arrived on this Coast against the Enemy, and earnestly recommending to each State the forwarding with the utmost dispatch such force as shall be called for by the Commander in Chief.

I expect Mons. Girard in the Character of Plenipotentiary from the Court of Versailles in Philadelphia early this morning, a novelty in these infant States which cannot but occasion some uncommon and extraordinary movements among those whose proper business it is to pay due attention to the first European Ambassador to Congress. I have the honor to be With the highest Esteem & Regard Sir Your Excellency's Most obedient & most humble servant

Henry Laurens President of Congress.

Governor Clinton, New York.

In Congress 11th July 1778.

His Most Christian Majesty the King of France having thought proper to send on this Coast a powerful Fleet in order to co-operate with the forces of these States in the reduction of the British Army and Navy,

Resolved That General Washington be empowered to call on the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, or such of them as he shall judge proper, for such aids of their Militia as he shall think requisite, for carrying on his operations in concert with Count d'Estaing, Commander of the French fleet; and that it be earnestly recommended to the States abovementioned to exert themselves in forwarding the force which may be required from them with the utmost dispatch.

Henry Laurens, President.

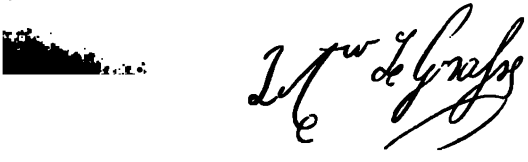
Certified

[No. 1581.]

John Brodhead and Others Petition for a Stronger Guard on the Ulster Frontiers.

May it Please your Excelency, We your Excelencies Humble Petetioners who are Not fleed, and Left our Places, Cattle, and Effects, a Prey to the Savage Enemy, Who have made an Incurtion upon us, and have Threatned Us, Who Remain in our Places, and will not Declear for his Britanik Majesty, With Devestation and Ruine, in Short; Do Humbly Petition your Excellency for a Stronger Gaurd, as we Expect Their Next Blow by their threatnings to be Upon us, We Lying in their open Road.

The Guard we have for Lurenkill, Napenak, & Warsink only consists of thirty four [illegible] of them of the [illegible]lassed men of [illegible] Not be able to [illegible]eep our H[illegible]



L. Mw Le Grasse

the s'd Assembly had no Just Right according to the Constitution of this State To Erect or Constitute Especially with Such an Arbitary and almost unlimited power.

That s'd Court have and Do Deny men the Liberty of a Trial by Jury which is Contrary to the plain letter of the Constitution of this State which at once Takes away one of the Darling Branches of English Liberty.

That s'd Court Do openly avow their Authority from their Instructions Given them from the General Assembly in the above s'd proceedings.

That s'd Court has of late in Sundry Instances Set aside the Judgment of the Honourable Council and also of the Convention of Committees in passing Judgment of Banishment against Sundry persons within this State,—all which proceedings Togather with The Necessary Consequences that must and will attend Them we Can but view with the utmost amazement which is Greatly Increased while we Consider that our armies are Contending in the field against Tyrany and oppression and there Introducing and zealously Carrying It on among our Selves.

Wherefore we your Honour's petitioners most Humbly pray that with the Honourable Council You would Take our Distressed Case into Consideration and Grant us Relief and if it may Seem
but a Stop to the further Unwarrantable proceedings of the
s'd Court untill the next Seting of assembly and suspend
ntances if Banishent that has Been already Passed under
Restrictions as in your wisdom Shall Seem best to Consis
the Safety of the State and your Petitioners as in Duty
and Shall Ever pray.

tate of Vermont 13th July 1778.

Voted Unanimously to wate on the Governor and Council with the above Petition.

[To Governor Thomas Chittenden.]

The above is a True Coppy pr Thos. Matteson Clerk.

Bennington August 29 1778.

State of Vermont

These Certify that Timothy Bull, Oliver Colvin, John Phillips, Samll. Phillips & John Phillips, Jun'r., were Sentence to Banishment By the Commisioners, Tho much against their wills, (& the Commonality), who were under my Care Before; Did apply to me To Get them Repreved from that Sentance as they Look on it unjust, But were willing to be under any Proper Confinement or Still under my Care, which I Could Not, as they were Sent off in great hast, as I Suppose for fear of Some of the Sons of Freedom would Releive them.

Samll. Robinson Just. Peace.

The barer, Daniel Marsh, Informs me that he is an Inhabitant of the New Hampshear Grants, and lived in Durrem that after the Evacuation of Tycondaroga he Removed upon his farm In Consequence of the advice he heard I had given Such of the People as applyed to me.

This may Certify that I did advise the Inhabitants to Remain upon their farms as the Houses that ware abandoned whare Plundered by the Militia In Spite of all I Cold doe to Prevent it.

Ar. St. Clear Majer.

To whome It may Concarn Subcribed Before Abraham Drake Cambridge, Albany County.

a true Coppy taken Before Me this 22 of August 1778.

Jno. Younglove Justice of the Peace.

[No. 1583.]

A Delegation of Confined Vermonters Petitions Governor Clinton.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State of New York and Commander in Chief over the Militia thereof &ca.

The Petition of John Phillips, Oliver Colvin, Samuel Philips, John Philips Jun'r and Timothy Bull late of Bennington and now confined in Albany Fort, humbly Sheweth, That your Petitioners have been lately sent down (under Guard) to the City of Albany and immediately put into close Confinement, in consequence of the Judgement of a Court stiled the Court of Commissioners for the State of Vermont County of Bennington, to be banished within the Enemy's Lines at New York or elsewhere that your Petitioners have never in any instance acted unfriendly to the American Cause, altho' it is alledged or expressed in the Sentence of banishment, that they stand charged with inimical Conduct against the United States of America—that the true and real Cause of their severe and unparalleled Treatment is owing to your Petitioners acknowledging themselves to be subjects of the State of New York, and not recognizing the validity and existence of the State of Vermont—that your Petitioners could lay many matters before your Excellency respecting their hard usage and oppression, which Time will not permit them, and being rather too prolix.

Your Petitioners therefore most earnestly beg that your Excellency as the Guardian of the Subjects of this State will afford us Protection and not suffer that we shall be hurried away from our families and friends before a proper enquiry be had relative to our Conduct or Crime. And your Petitioners shall ever Pray

John Phillips Timothy Bull Oliver Colvin Samuel Phillips John

Albany Fort 15th July 1778.

(Copy)

[No. 1584.]

General Stark Pronounces the Delegation Dangerous to the Welfare of the State.

Albany 15th July 1778.

Sir, In Consequence of an Application of some People from Bennington in respect to eight men that are just arrived from said Place, we waited on Genl. Starks to be informed of their Crimes, they being sent to him, with Colo. Ethan Allen; his honor informed us that it was none of our business to interfere with Tories from any other State, they were sent to him to be forwarded over the Enemy's Lines, which he was preparing to effect; as he informed us he was then writing to Genl. Gates on that head; after much altercation on the Subject he informed us that the State of Vermont by their Courts had adjudged them dangerous to the welfare of their State and he judged it expedient to comply with their Commands.

We conceive the Transaction to be of so extraordinary a nature that your Excellency ought to be acquainted with the same with all speed. We are with due Respect Your Excellency's most Obed't humble Serv'ts

Jer. Van Renselaer
John M. Beekman
Isaac D. Fonda

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

(Copy.)

[No. 1585.]

Massachusetts Petitions New York for Bread Stuffs.

Council Chamber Boston July 16th 1778.

Sir, It is well known to all who are acquainted with the agriculture of this State, that its Inhabitants have never as yet been able to produce a Sufficient Quantity of Grain for their Consumption,

and the last Year large Quantities of Grain were lost in the western parts of this State by reason of our Peoples being called into and continued in the Public Service. We have, therefore, been obliged to procure a Sufficient Supply of Flour, and Grain, from the Neighbouring States. The Importation of them from the southern States, from whence we used to obtain our principal Supply, has been greatly interupted by the Enemy; however, notwithstanding this interuption, we have hitherto got a Sufficiency to keep us from Starving, but as Congress by a late resolve has laid an Embargo upon the Exportation of the Articles before mentioned by Water, with a View to prevent their falling into the hands of the Enemy, We can Expect no Supply from that Quarter, and must, unless we are relieved by our Brethren at New York, soon be greatly distressed for the want of Bread Corn; and what increases our anxiety upon this Occasion is, that we have been informed that your Government have prohibited the Transportation of that Article by Land. We must, therefore, request that you would, for our relief, permit such a Quantity of Corn, Rye, Wheat, and Flour, to be transported from your State into this Government as may be necessary for the Use of its Inhabitants. We do not want these Articles for Exportation (an Effectual Bar is put to that by Congress) but barely for the Sustenance of the Inhabitants. We must, therefore, desire your Excellency to use your Influence that such Orders may be given as that we may be enabled to obtain a necessary Supply, and that such Persons as Incline may be permitted to transport their Flour and Grain, without molestation from your State into ours. Hoping for your kind interposition in this matter We conclude with great respect, Your most humble Servant

Jer: Powell Presid't.

His Excell'y Governor Clinton.

[No. 1586.]

SPRINGFIELD DESTROYED.

Lieutenant-Colonel Ford Portrays the Demoralization Along the Frontier to General Ten Broeck.

Cherry Valley 18th July 1778.

Dear Sir, I Embrace the Earliest Opportunity to inform you that the Enemy, Tories, and Indians, have made a Descent upon the Settlement Called Springfield, about 10 or 11 O'Clock this Day, and have burnt and Destroyed the same; the Greatest part of the inhabitants were moved, but some of them were there, how many are killed and taken I can not as yet tell, Upon the first intelligence that I had, that there had been five Guns heard Distinct, I immediately sent two Reconnoitering parties with very Explicit Orders, the next news that arrived, that there was 17 Guns heard; upon this I fired an alarm. Directly after, there Came direct news that the Settlement was all in a light flame; having so few Troops, I thought it not proper to send no larger parties than only to reconnoiter, least I Exposed myself to a Surprize, Posted the few troops in the best manner possible, fully Determining with my men to Defend our Ground or Loose our lives. The men I must Confess appeared with undaunted Courage. Towards night I sent a Scout of about thirty men, which returned in the night, and said that they had been into the Settlement, and found it all in ashes, Could not make any Discoveries of the Enemy or of any other person; So that I Judge that it is a Scouting party that is Come for that very purpose; and to alarm the people in this busy time of the year. After I had Certain accounts that the Enemy were there I sent an Express to Coll. Clock; here will be Considerable of an Alarm, I Expect reinforcements in to morrow, I am informed that there is a small Company of Rangers

on their way to us. I have about 80 men fit for Duty here besides some of the inhabitants. I have not time to make a proper return of the Garrison at this time. The People here are in the greatest Distress. There is Piquets made round the meeting house and all the women and Children and their Houshold Effects are Crouded into that place, for protection, and they are so thick, it seems to me that they must Die there. And there is so few men here that it is not in our power to protect them, Except they are together and the inhabitants have determined that they must Carry away their Families Directly, Except there Can be men sent them, for they are every moment Exposed; and for my part I must fully agree with them for the Distressed Circumstances here I can not give you an Idea of. The Post is all open to the Enemy and nothing to hinder their Coming; and so few men here is only a Bait for them; and I think if this post is Evacuated that the Mohawk River will not Stay so, that I Conceive the Supporting of this post is of great Consequence to the Northern inhabitants; at least there should be four or five hundred men here and a Good Commandant to be Steady here, and a Number of Continental Troops with the Militia. For this reason the militia officers are not Experienced and a great many of them but ordinary men, and they stay out for but one month and it will take them almost so long to get a proper knowledge of the Country and of their Duty, and they with their men Constantly keeping Tally to know how many Days before their time will be out that is a great Satisfaction with them.

Since my arrival I have been very Vigilant in keeping of Scouts out, and at a Considerable distance; when one scout is a returning I have another one a Going out, besides other parties out; when I Came here I found the men badly Quartered, I immediately Dis-

posed the troops in the best manner that I Could for the number that I had.

The Enemy that have done this mischief have taken another Route where they was not Expected by the inhabitants that was acquainted with the Country. It must be that they Came round back of the Lake were they have had a great way to travel, and where we have had no Scouts,

I hope we shall be timely relieved, I think our men will Stay their times ought [out] and no longer.

Sir, please to write back by the bearer and see that he is paid, for it is hard for me to pay him myself. From Your Sincere Friend and Humble Serv't

Jacob Ford.

To Brigdr. Genl. Ab'm Ten Broeck.

[No. 1587.]

General Ten Broeck Apprehensive for the Frontier.

Schohary July 17th 9 O'Clock at night 1778.

Hon'd Sir, I am Informed by a man who is knowing in Albany, his name is Lewis, a France man, that he has seen and Spoke with a Onoghquago Indian this afternoon, a Spy of the Enemy; he told him that the Enemy are on their way Coming up the west Branch of Delaware River to this Place. I don't doubt but what he has told me the truth, as it seems he is a friend to the Cause; he tells me also, that the said Indian told him that they had made a wide Road; he thinks it is to bring field Pieces, (but whether this is Possible I don't know, it perhaps might be); their number is great. I hope you will Hurry on the Reinforcement without delay, I Remain Sir, Your most humble Serv't

Peter Vrooman.

To General Ten Broeck.

Albany 19th July 1778.

Sir, The above is Copy of a letter I Rec'd from Colonel Vrooman. I find it Exceeding Difficult to get the militia out; they are Just begining in Harvest which makes it very Distressing to them indeed, Unless a Body of Continental Troops soon arrive for the Protection of our western Frontier I dread the Consequence. I am with great Respect Your Excellency's most Obdt. Humble Serv't

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

His Excel'cy, George Clinton, Esqr.

[No. 1588.]

Scouting for Marauding Indians.

Cherry Valley 19th July 1778.

Dear Sir, I have not as yet found the strength of this Cursed Club that has done this Mischief, but I have a Scout now ready to march with orders to get some intelligence of them and their strength, before they return, and to give them Battle if they can come across them, I have had some intelligence that they have done mischief further to the Westward, but how much I cannot tell this; Springfield lies about 5 Miles Westward from this, we Expect that they have killed or taken 4 or 5 men, the women and Children as yet we get no Intelligence of.

I shall send this by one of our men; their time is so near out and after the delivery of them to go home, and if you think proper to send us any answer, we shall receive the same with great Joy. I remain, Sir, your most Humble Servant

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General Ten Broeck.

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Jacob Ford

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[No. 1589.]

COLONEL KLOCK SOUNDS A CRY OF ALARM.

Continental Troops Gone, Militia Marching Home and Tryon County Destitute of Protection.

Palatine, Tryon County, 19th July 1778.

Honoured Sir, Last Evening about 6 O'Clock I received Several Expresses from Cherry Valley, Springfield, and Andreastown, informing that the two last mentioned Places are Entirely destroyed by Indians and Tories, the houses Set on fire, several men killed and Scalped, the Fate of the women is not known. All we could collect from Eye witnesses agreaeth that the Enemy is Strong. This morning likewise Coll. Peter Billinger sent several Expresses for assistance, as the Enemy has burned houses within four Miles from the German Flats. The Continental troops stationed amongst us are Gone, the Militia under Coll. Livingston is on the march for home, so that we are Entirely Destitute of any assistance. I have given the Necessary orders to Stop the Progress of the Enemy, but the Frontiers is too Extensive to be Guarded by the Militia alone, and if no Continental Troops or a Standing Force can be Continued, I fear the whole County by parcels may meet the Fate of the above Settlements, I Suppose your Honour knows that Springfield is within three Miles of Cherry Valley. We expect hourly to hear of another inroad of the Enemy. I do not Doubt but you will afford us all assistence in your power and Recommend our Situation to his Excellency the Governor, to Genl. Starks, and Such other Commanders as have in their power to grant us relief. I remain, Sir, Your most Obdt. & humble Serv't

Jacob Klock.

To Abraham Ten Broeck, Esqr.,

Brig. General.

[No. 1592.]

The Force Ordered to Schoharie and Cherry Valley Under Command of Colonel Knickerbacker.

A Return of the Number of men each Regiment is ordered to furnish for one month to march to Schohary and Cherry Valey which Col. Knickerbacker is appointed to Command.

Albany July 20th 1778.

Regiments	Men ordered out being ¼ part of each Regt.	Ordered to March to Schohary	Ordered to March to Cherry Valey
Robert Van Rensselaer's.....	63		63
Peter Van Ness's.....	79		79
Philip Schuyler	75	75	
Killian Van Rensselaer's.....	89	89	
Henry Quackenboss	57	57	
Stephen J. Schuyler's.....	56	56	
Ab'm J. Van Alstyne.....	51		51
Anth'y Van Bergen's.....	48	48	
William B. Whiteing's.....	94		94
Jacobus Van Schoonhoven's...	86		86
	698	325	373
Abraham Wemple	90	90	
	788	415	

[No. 1593.]

TEN BROECK REPORTS TO GOVERNOR CLINTON.

Militia Positively Refuse to Obey Orders—Prefer Harvesting to Fighting—The Situation on the Frontier Critical.

Albany 20th July 1778, 5 O'Clock P. M.

Sir, I send your Excellency Copy of two letters which I have *this* moment Received by Express, the one from Colonel Klock,

the other from Lieut. Colonel Ford, Containing the Disagreeable news of the Destruction of the Settlements of Springfield & Anderstown—in Consequence of Colonel Vrooman's Intelligence Rec'd of the approach of the Enemy of which I have sent your Excellency a Copy, I yestarday ordered Colonel Wemple with the whole of his Schinectady Regiment, to march Immediately to Schohary; there is about 80 men of my Brigade (Exclusive of Vrooman's Regt.) at that place—one fourth part of the Half Moon Regiment are on their march to Cherry Valey—your Excell'cy will Remember that by my Order of the 12th June, of which you have a Copy I ordered that Detachment to be Relieved by an Equal number at the Expiration of the month; the 11th Instant I sent an Order to the Colonells, Pressing them to be Punctual in sending on the Relieve in time, but none have yet arrived tho I hear they are on their march, I shall push them on as soon as they come in, one half of them to Tryon & the other half to Schohary—to my great Surprize the Detachment at Johnstown, Consisting of ab't 50 men, where Colonell Livingston Commanded, whom I sent Orders to march to Cherry Valey, the Colonel writes me the men Positively Refused to march, alledging their month was up; all the Exertions of the Officers had no Effect, & last Saturday they have most Shamefully deserted that Post—the Colonel Informs me a Company of the Tryon Rangers were to take Post there as on that day. None of the Hampshire militia are arrived here, the Berkshire militia are gone home, only about 30 are Come to Relief those gone home—only about 50 men of Colonel Beedel's Regiment are here.

Let me Beseech your Excellency, to Endeavour to get a Body of Continental Troops sent to our western Frontiers—if they do not come soon I dread the Consequences—it is now harvest & it is

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Let me Beseech your Excellency, to Endeavour to get a Body of Continental Troops sent to our western Frontiers—if they do not come soon I dread the Consequences—it is now harvest & it is

Relief was to be expected from his Army I made use of every means in my Power to get out respectable Force of the Militia on the Frontiers, and had my Orders for that Purpose been executed, I flatter myself that the present as well as the former Depredations committed by the Tories & Savages might have been prevented.

As soon as I was apprized of the Grand Army's arrival at the River, I waited on his Excellency and represented the Defenceless & unhappy Condition of the Frontiers & the impracticability of Protecting them by the Militia. This produced an Order for a Detachment of Continental Troops under the Command of Lieut. Colo. Butler to march up the Frontier as far as Wawarsinck in Ulster County & there halt for farther Orders. I have now forwarded by Express the above Intelligence to Genl. Washington & pressed the Hastning of the March of the above Detachment & that they may be directed to proceed at least as far North as Schohary before they halt. This is the only Succour I have the least hope of procuring from the army as it was with Difficulty I coud obtain This. Genl. Gates is no ways Apprehensive of Danger to the Northward or Westward of Albany & he expects (he says) large bodies of Militia from Hampshire & Berkshire &ca. Indeed, Sir, we have no hope left but in the Exertions of the Militia, to whom I have again repeated the necessary Orders & after making the necessary arangements for the Defence of the Frontiers in this Quarter I will endeavour personally to inforce them. I am with great Regard D'r Sir Your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

[To Gen. Schuyler.]

[No. 1596.]

ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR NEW YORK.

Text of the Congressional Resolutions with Proposed Amendments Relative to the Vermont Matter.

Philadelphia 21st July 1778.

Sir, Just before we left York Town (in Conjunction with our Colleague Mr. Lewis) we moved for, and obtained from the Congress, an advance of 100,000 Dollars for the Use of the State, and for which they are to be accountable. The Reasons were as follows: We found, by various Intelligence laid before Congress, that the Savages were about making an Irruption upon our Frontiers, & from the probable Evacuation of Philadelphia, it was not unlikely that the British General would again pursue his favorite Object of Hudson's River. In this Situation of Affairs, it appeared to us that money might be wanting in our Treasury, which we had Reason to believe was not very full; and, further, we were informed that our militia remained unpaid for Services formerly done, and, therefore, might not turn out with their usual Alacrity. These Things were laid before Congress, and they, (surprized at the moderation of a Demand which we venture to say from any other State in similar Circumstances would have been at least three Times as great), instantly made the Grant: The adjournment to Philadelphia, the Change of political Circumstances by the Battle of Monmouth, and arrival of the French Squadron (on both of which Incidents we heartily congratulate your Excellency) and the want of a safe Opportunity, have delayed the sending forward of the money.

We have further to observe to your Excellency, that the Complaints of our Fellow Citizens who are unpaid by Commissaries

Relief was to be expected from his Army I made use of every means in my Power to get out respectable Force of the Militia on the Frontiers, and had my Orders for that Purpose been executed, I flatter myself that the present as well as the former Depredations committed by the Tories & Savages might have been prevented.

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[G. C.]

[To Gen. Schuyler.]

if within our Power such as are stated on the enclosed Paper. We are with greatest Respect Your Excellency's most obed't & humble Serv'ts.

Wm. Duer,
Gouv'r Morris.

(Copy)*

The Committee to whom was referred the letter from Gov'r Clinton, of the 7th of April, A. D. 1778, with the Proclamation enclosed, take leave to report the following resolutions, viz:

Resolved, that the independent government attempted to be established by the people styling themselves the inhabitants of Vermont cannot derive any countenance or authority from the Congress of the thirteen United States of America.

Resolved, that no number or body of people within any part of the United States can be justified in attempting to form & establish any new independent State within any part of these United States, without the consent of the State or States in which they are & were included at the time the Congress were at first elected & convened for the Safety & defence of these United States, & the approbation of Congress.

And it is recommended, in the Strongest terms, to the people aforementioned, & all other the good people of these United States & any particular State interested or claiming to be interested in the premises, to refrain from all acts of violence & coercive measures, as they regard the peace & welfare of these States.

The Committee who brought in this report were: Mr. Huntington, of Connecticut, Mr. J. B. Smith, of Pennsylvania, & Mr. Francis Lightfoot Lee, of Virginia.

Amendments intended to be proposed to the Report:

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*This copy is in the handwriting of George W. Clinton.

Resolved, that no man or body of men can of right on any territory within North America form or establish any State, (other than those which were called the British Colonies, Provinces, or Plantations in North America,) without the Special consent of that State within which such territory shall lie, & the approbation of Congress.

Resolved, that Congress do highly reprobate all attempts to set up, form, or establish any new State or government, as tending to break the Union of the States they represent, to produce civil wars, & to destroy the peace, freedom, & happiness of America.

Resolved, that Congress have not given & will not give any countenance or authority to the discontented subjects of the State of New York, Styling themselves the inhabitants of Vermont, but do disapprove of their proceedings.

Resolved, that it be most earnestly recommended to the persons aforesaid, forthwith to submit peaceably & quietly to the jurisdiction, government, & authority of the said State of New York, & that they represent unto the said government any grievances they may labor under.

Resolved, that the State of New York be requested to forbear, for the present, all coercive measures to compel the submission of their discontented subjects, & also, on a proper representation, to redress the grievances they labor under, if any there be.

[No. 1597.]

Governor Clinton Calls Washington's Attention to the Situation Along Our Frontier.

Poughkeepsie 21st July 1778.

Dear Sir, I have this Moment received the disagreable account of Springfield and Andreastown on the Western Frontier

of Tryon County being destroyed by the Enemy. Copies and Extracts of the several Letters forwarded to me on that Subject and the Copy of a Letter from Colo. Vroman to General Ten Broeck containing Information of the Enemy's being on their march up the west branch of Delaware against that Place your Excellency will find enclosed. I am extreamly apprehensive that notwithstanding the utmost Exertions we shall be able to make with the militia, the Enemy will lay waste that Fertile Country. By General Ten Broeck's Letter, your Excellency will please to observe that none of the Hampshire Militia are arrived at Albany and only about 30 of the Berkshire Militia and about 50 of Colo. Beedel's Regiment are now at that Place. This unexpectedly being the Case, I submit to your Excellency whether it wou'd not be most adviseable to hasten the march of Lieut. Colo. Butler's Regiment and instead of halting them at Wawarsink, let them proceed immediately at least as far North as Schoharie as it is most probable the next attempt of the Enemy will be against that Settlement. I am with the highest Esteem Your Excellency's most Obed't Serv't

Geo: Clinton.

His Excellency, Genl. Washington.

[No. 1598.]

Washington Declines to Interfere in the Vermont Matter.

Head Quarters White Plains 21t July 1778.

Dear Sir, I have been fav'd with yours of yesterday, and soon after Genl. Gates transmitted me letters from Colo. Ethan Allen to Genl. Starke and himself upon the same Subject. I plainly perceive that this matter is likely to be productive of a serious Dispute between the State of New York and the Inhabitants of

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Vermont and therefore, I do not chuse to give any Determination. I shall transmit the whole Proceedings to Congress and desire their Decision. In the mean time I have ordered the Prisoners to be returned to Fort Arnold where they are to remain, in an easy confinement under the Care of Colo. Malcom the commanding Officer. I am with great Esteem Dear Sir, Your most Obed't Serv't

Geo: Washington.

Gov'r Clinton.

(Copy)

[No. 1599.]

Governor Clinton to the Albany Commissioners.

Poughkeepsie 21st July 1778.

Gentlemen, Your Letter of the 15th together with the Petition of John Philips & others who were sent to Genl. Starks by the pretended State of Vermont, to be forwarded to the Enemy's Lines, was left at my House during my absence on a Visit to Genl. Washington's Headquarters. On my arrival at Home last evening, I was informed that the Persons had already passed this Place on their Passage down. Whereupon, I immediately wrote to Genl. Washington by Express enclosing a Copy of your Letter & the Petition and requesting him to direct that the Persons might be immediately sent back & delivered up to the Commiss'rs at this Place and that Genl. Starke might be called to account for his unwarrantable Conduct. I am &c.

[G. C.]

Jer. Van Rensselaer, John M. Beekman, Isaac D. Fonda, Esqrs., Commiss'rs &c.

[No. 1600.]

THE MILITIA ALONE TO BE DEPENDED UPON.

Governor Clinton Notifies General Ten Broeck that the Continental Army Cannot Help Him.

Poughkeepsie 21st July 1778.

Dear Sir, Your Letter of the 11th Instant I received at Genl. Washington's Head Quarters & immediately communicated to him the Information contained in Armitage's Affidavit. A Regiment of Continental Troops that was designed for the lower End of Minisink are now on their March up our Western Frontier they are to halt at or near Wawarsinck & wait there for further Orders. It will be some Days yet before they can arrive at that Place.

On my Return Home last Night I was favoured with yours of the 17th Instant. The Information transmitted you by Colo. Vrooman & Copied in your Letter may be true, as it is not improbable. It is, therefore, of the utmost Importance that my former Orders should be strictly complied with & a respectable Force of the Militia kept constantly out on the Frontiers for the Defence of the Inhabitants who must otherwise inevitably fall a Sacrafize to the Enemy. The Militia of your Brigade must submit to an equal Share of Duty with those in the other Parts of the State; more will not be required of them. I have done every Thing in my Power & Consistent with my Duty to obtain you Succour from the Continental Army, but when we consider the Extent of the Western Frontier only from Virginia Northward, equally exposed to & infested by the Tories & Savages, you will readilly perceive it woud take our whole Army to guard it. This will account for the want of greater Success in my Applications. We must for this one Campaign (for I am almost Confident, if we

of this Business and as your own private Business may not admit of your employing so much of your Time therein as may be competent for the Purpose, to call on such suitable Persons in whom you can place Confidence to your Assistance as may be necessary. You will please to observe that besides Proof of the Infraction of the Convention on the part of the Enemy in the Instance above particularly mentioned it will be equally material to prove it in any other such as the Concealment of Stores, Standards &ca. which ought by the Tenor of the Convention to have been delivered up.

I woud mention Messrs. John Lansing & Dirck Swart as Persons proper to be imployed by you in the Execution of this Business, if they will undertake it & I am perswaded to oblidge me Genl. Schuyler will render you every assistance in his Power. I have only to add that it is to be conducted with secrecy, as perhaps the Evidence required, may be procured from Canada And that I will see that all Expence attending this Matter be paid with a Reasonable Compensation to the Gentlemen imployed for their Trouble. I am &ca.

G. C.

To John Tayler, Esqr.

[No. 1602.]

GENERAL GATES SNUBS JAMES DUANE.

The Latter Submits a Few Valuable Suggestions to Governor Clinton on the Indian Question.

Manour Livingston 21st July 1778.

Sir, I did myself the Honour of apprizing your Excellency of my having engaged, at the Entreaty of General Schuyler, to assist in forwarding the Measures recommended by Congress for the Protection of our distressed Frontiers; so far as they were

connected with the Indian Department. This by the same Opportunity, I also intimated to General Gates; expressing my wishes that as it depended with him to put the Enterprize in motion we might speedily be furnished with his Directions. On the second Instant I went to Albany. After three or four days our Express returned, with a Line from General Gates, taking no other notice of the interesting Subject of our dispatches than "that he woud write to us fully by Lieut. Col. Willet who was shortly expected from General Washington's Head Quarters." I waited at Albany untill the 15" Inst. when I had the Mortification to learn that Col. Willet had returned from the grand army, and was on a Visit to his Family in Connecticut; despairing, therefore, of being anywise Serviceable by a further Exercise of Patience, and waste of money & Time, I returned to the Manour. I shall make no Comment on this Misterious proceedure of the Commander of the Northern Department. My own personal Feelings I have moderation enough to temper. Perhaps the deplorable Events which have recently occurred, and others which are still to be dreaded; coud not have been averted, even had the Resolutions of Congress been obeyed with alacrity. Perhaps, too, Appearances in the Southern part of our State may have drawn upon General Gates a weight of Solicitude and apprehensions which will fully Justify his seeming Inattention to those Injunctions. I learn from the Speaker, that the House of Assembly, just before their last Rising, expressed their Desire that General Schuyler or myself shoud repair to Congress, and that a Resolution for this Purpose was only laid aside because it was represented that the General was preparing to proceed thither without Loss of Time. He undoubtedly communicated such an Intention; but being soon after notified by the President

of Congress that a Charge of Neglect of Duty in his late military department was at length transmitted to General Washington, he thought himself bound to repair to head Quarters to demand his Trial. I Esteem the wishes of my Constituents on this Occasion as a Command with which I cannot in point of Honour or Duty dispense, & therefore—foregoing a personal Consideration which lies very near to my Heart, and which on a former occasion I mentioned to your Excellency—am determined in a short time previously doing myself the Honour of asking your Excellency's Commands; to resume my Seat in Congress.

If General Schuyler shoud be long detained at Head Quarters on his Trial; or again, take his Post in the army, or his Seat in Congress, give me leave, Sir, to recommend the Affairs of the Six nations to your Excellency's more immediate attention. The Oneidas and Tuscaroroes are still our Friends and with proper management might be induced to take an active part, even against the Senecas & Cayugaes. The Onondagaes are divided & many of them may be drawn over to us on the appearance of vigorous Efforts to realize our late Menaces. No one knows better than your Excellency the great advantages which may be derived from this animosity among the Six nations, especially in any offensive Operation, nor the Dangers which are to be apprehended in Case of their uniting against us in acts of Hostility. Candour bids me to give it as my opinion that Mr. Douw with the greatest Zeal & the best Intentions for the publick Service, is not alone equal to the arduous & delicate Task of managing these unsteady People, nor do I believe he woud undertake it. I take the Liberty to suggest these Hints that your Excellency may [illegible] to revolve them & in Case of Emergency to give

[illegible]ng.

Permit me, Sir, with the utmost Cordiality, to congratulate your Excellency on the Victory obtaind by our great & most worthy General over the British army in the Battle of Monmouth. Among the many eminent advantages which must arise from this happy Event, I am particularly rejoicd that such signal Glory has crownd the Virtues and the Labours of our illustrious Commander in Chief.

I have the Honour to be with the greatest Respect & Esteem Sir Your Excellency's most Obedient & very humble Servant.

Jas. Duane.

His Excellency, Governour Clinton.

[No. 1603.]

Massachusetts Depends Upon New York for Flour and Bread.

War Office, Boston July 22, 1778.

Sir. We are requested by Collo. Smith of your State, who sometime past contracted w'h this Board to purchase for the use of Government, One Thousand barrells of Flour, the greatest part of which still remains in the State of New York. And, as he is apprehensive some difficulties may arise about permission being granted by your Excell'y and the Hon'ble Court, for transporting the same, we would inform your Excell'y that this Governm't have no other method to import that Article but from and thro your State, and that at present we are in the greatest need thereof, and beg he may be permitted to forward the same.

We have the Honor to be Y'r Excell'y most Obt. hble. Servants

Sam Phps Savage, Pres't P Order.

His Excell'y George Clinton Esqr.

P. M. Since writing the above Collo. Smith hath informed us, that there is now remaining in y'r State ab't 500 Barrells.

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Permit me, Sir, with the utmost Cordiality, to congratulate your Excellency on the Victory obtaind by our great & most worthy General over the British army in the Battle of Monmouth. Among the many eminent advantages which must arise from this happy Event, I am particularly rejoicd that such signal Glory has crownd the Virtues and the Labours of our illustrious Commander in Chief.

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tention to the public good & at the Expence of their private Interest the People must unavoidably suffer under the best Government.

I have nothing new worth Communicating. I had the Pleasure of seeing your Brother at Head Quarters a few Days since. He was perfectly recovered of his Wound & expected soon to obtain leave to vissit the Familly. Please to make my best Compliments to Mrs. Livingston & believe me to be with great Respect Your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

The Hon'ble Robt. R. Livingston Esqr.

[No. 1605.]

AN APPEAL TO THE GOVERNOR.

Several Representative Men Call His Attention to the Situation in Tryon County.

German Flatts, July the 22nd 1778.

May it please Your Excellency. We the inhabitants of German Flatts District in the County of Tryon, humbly beg leave to lay our Distresses before Your Excellency, Not doubting but Your Excellency will give us, all the assistance, the nature of our Case requires.

Our case on these Frontiers is truly Deplorable, as we lay open to the continual ravages, and cruelties of the Savages. It is with grief, we can assure Your Excellency, that on Saturday last, the 18th instant Andrews Town, and Spring-Field, was burn'd and Destroy'd by the Enemy, and since that Time, they are continually alarming us, with scalping Parties, who sometimes kill and scalp one, and take another Prisoner.

By two old men, who the enemy took Prisoners at Andrews Town, and have since sent back, we learn that Joseph Brandt,

who commanded the party of Indians, at the burning of the above places, told the said men, that in about eight days time, he should join Butler, and then they intended to fall in, on the German Flatts, and burn and destroy all that came before them. They likewise told the men, that Fight they would, for they came on purpose to fight. And burn and Destroy they must. They drove off a number of Cattle from Andrews Town, and have left several Dead on the Spot.

Your Excellency will be pleased to pardon, our boldness, in thus troubling You, But as we have wrote several times for assistance, and there was some Parties sent up from Albany, but none has been sent to the German Flatts, We are therefore oblig'd as our last refuge to be thus troublesome to Your Excellency, Humbly hoping, Your Excellency, will grant us a reinforcement, sufficient to hinder the wicked designs of our enemies, as we are of ourselves to weak. If we cannot get assistance, we must expect to Starve, as we are oblig'd to keep all in a Body, to Protect ourselves, our Wives and Families, not knowing how soon we may be attacked, By which means we have not time to get in our harvest. Last Year, at the time of the seige of Fort Schuyler, we could get no assistance till too late, by which means we lost most part of our harvest, and the remainder was almost spoil'd. We are sorry to trouble Your Excellence with our fears, but without the desired Reinforcement, we are under apprehensions, that this Harvest, will prove a great deal worse. We have wrote to General Stark in Albany, for such a Reinforcement, and if Your Excellence, would be pleas'd to back it, with a line or two, we trust it would be a means to Expedite our Desire.

Therefore, relying on Your Excellencies firm attachment, to the Glorious cause of American Freedom, and Your Justice and

Humanity to all mankind, for the so much desired reinforcement, we beg leave to Subscribe ourselves, in behalf of the whole District. Your Excellencies, Most Obedient humble Servants

Peter Bellinger, Colo.
Friederick Fox, Justice.
Willem Deygert, Justice.
Michael Ittick, Capt.
Henrich Hercheimer, Justice.

To His Excellency, George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1606.]

The Albany Conspiracy Committee Repudiate General Stark.

Albany 24th July 1778.

Sir. We acknowledge the Receipt of yours of the 21st Instant, since which there is again in this Place seven other Persons sent by the pretended State of Vermont to be forwarded, we suppose by General Starks, to the Enemy; from the first Reception we met with by General Starks we conceive it needless to remonstrate with him any farther about the matter; therefore we take the most early Oppertunity to inform your Excellency of the Proceedings. We are Your Excellencies most Obedient hum: Servants

Jer. V Rensselaer, John M. Beeckman, Isaac D. Fonda.

[To Governor George Clinton.]

[No. 1607.]

Colonel Vrooman Reports Increased Activity Among the Indians.

Schohary 24th July 1778.

Sir, Our alarming Sircumstances enduces me to beg your Honour to give your assistance at this critical Juncture. I have

[No. 1604.]

Governor Clinton Willing to Aid in Suppressing Bandits.

Poughkeepsie 22d July 1778.

Dear Sir, I have received your Letter of yesterday. I will be much obliged to you or any other Gentleman who will undertake to concert a proper Plan for detecting the Lawless Banditis you alude to and I will most cheerfully afford any Force I am authorized to raise which may be thought necessary to carry it effectually into Execution.

I have myself taken great Pains in concerting Measures for apprehending the Robers who infest different Parts of the Country that they might be brought to Punishment, tho I do not conceive this to be the immediate Duty of my Office. Reflections cast on Government or those in the Administration of it because Roberies are committed in the State by night in so secret a manner as that the Perpetrators cannot be detected, woud in my Oppinion be very invidious & ungenerous as to merit the Contempt of every honest man. The very Robers themselves by the Care they take not to fall into the Hands of Government confess its Justice & Energy. The Courts lately held at this Place and at Albany have afforded them the most convincing Evidence of nine having been convicted & executed for that Crime alone.

It is indeed to be lamented that not one of the Gentlemen in your Part of the Country who are named in the Commission of the Peace have qualified themselves for the Execution of that Office, and that others cannot be found in so large a District who will consent to serve. It is to this Cause not only the Misschiefs of which you complain but many other Evils may with great Justice be imputed, and until those among you who have Capacity to serve their Country will at least consent to pay some at-

Canada with a promise of pardon to two or three of those of the Convention who have been obliged to bear arms Since their Going into Canada from Saratoga; from Such persons the Clearest Evidence could be obtaind, & I have not the least doubt but there are many who would Gladly return were they assured of a pardon, I dare Say there are Several in this & Charlotte County who would willingly be the bearers of So agreeable a piece of news to their near Connections who are with the Enemy. General Schuyler looks upon this to be the most Eligible mode of procuring Sufficient proof, and promises his advice and assistance. Should this meet with your Excellency's approbation, on Signifying the same, it shall be carried into immediate Execution, for which purpose a pardon from you would be necessary. Mr. John Lansing will assist me. I have not as yet wrote to Mr. Swart. My Indisposition when I left Poughkeepsie prevented my waiting on you. I mention'd to you that I left Cloth for a watch coat, with a taylor at Esopus whose name I forgot. I wish you would order Some of your people to Enquire after it. T'would answer for some one your Servants. I am with Due Esteem Your Excellency's most obed't Humble Serv't

John Tayler.

Albany 24th July 1778.

Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 1609.]

General Schuyler at Work on the Same Case.

Albany July 26th 1778.

Dear Sir. Your Excellency's favor of the 21st Instant I had the honor to receive on the 24th. We are well aware that you have exerted every means in your power to procure safety to frontier Inhabitants. If the detachment you mention under Colo.

who commanded the party of Indians, at the burning of the above places, told the said men, that in about eight days time, he should join Butler, and then they intended to fall in, on the German Flatts, and burn and destroy all that came before them. They likewise told the men, that Fight they would, for they came on purpose to fight. And burn and Destroy they must. They drove off a number of Cattle from Andrews Town, and have left several Dead on the Spot.

Your Excellency will be pleased to pardon, our boldness, in thus troubling You, But as we have wrote several times for assistance, and there was some Parties sent up from Albany, but none has been sent to the German Flatts, We are therefore oblig'd as our last refuge to be thus troublesome to Your Excellency, Humbly hoping, Your Excellency, will grant us a reinforcement, sufficient to hinder the wicked designs of our enemies, as we are of ourselves to weak. If we cannot get assistance, we must expect to Starve, as we are oblig'd to keep all in a Body, to Protect ourselves, our Wives and Families, not knowing how soon we may be attacked, By which means we have not time to get in our harvest. Last Year, at the time of the seige of Fort Schuyler, we could get no assistance till too late, by which means we lost most part of our harvest, and the remainder was almost spoil'd. We are sorry to trouble Your Excellence with our fears, but without the desired Reinforcement, we are under apprehensions, that this Harvest, will prove a great deal worse. We have wrote to General Stark in Albany, for such a Reinforcement, and if Your Excellence, would be pleas'd to back it, with a line or two, we trust it would be a means to Expedite our Desire.

Therefore, relying on Your Excellencies firm attachment, to the Glorious cause of American Freedom, and Your Justice and

[Nos. 1613-1614.]

Return of the Fourth Pennsylvania Regiment Under Colonel William Butler.

Return of the State of the 4th Pennsylv'a Regim't Commanded by Wm. Butler Esqr. Lieut't Colonel. Albany July 28th 1778.

	Officers present fit for Duty																					Rank & file		
	Field			Commiss'd				Staff						Non Commissioned										
	Colonel	Lieut. Colon't	Major	Captains	1st Lieuts.	2d Lieuts.	Ensigns	Chaplain	Adjutant	Pay Master	Qr. Master	Surgeon	Surg's Mate	Serjant Major	Qr. Mr. Serjant	Drum Major	Fife Major	Serjants	Drums & fifes	present fit for Duty	Sick present	Total
Total		1	1	4	5	1		1	1		1	1	1	1			1	19	14	128	3	131

N. B. Lieut. Summers as Qr. Mr. Pro tem.

Albany July 29th 1778. 2 Serjants 4 Rank & file Join'd from Valley Forge. 1 Private Exchanged from New York. 1 Do from the Commissary Genl's Waggons.

Return of Cloathing &c. Wanting in 4 Pensa. Commanded by Lt. Colo. Wm. Butler.* July 28th 1778.

Hats 20; Hunting Shirts 131; Shirts 131; Shoes 131; Blankets 60; Napsacks 19; Overals 53.

Wanting in the Rifle Regt. Shirts 118; Shoes 124; Overals 118; Blankets 29; Napsacks 30; Canteens 60; Hunting Shirts 80;

*See pages 595-596.

wrote to General Stark for some men, Field Pieces & ammunition which I think at this time very necessary, Capt'n Harper, a Gentlemen of Veracity, gives me Intelligence that the Enemy are at Unindilla very strong, amounting to neigh three thousand, and by one of my Scouts which arriv'd this afternoon brings Intelligence that they saw four Indians within fourteen miles of this place, going from this, which they supposed to be a Schout and I believe it is very likely; the Schout also informs me that they staid last night in sight of one, Services, a great Enemy to the Country upon the Susquahanna where they heard frequent yellings of the Savages; therefore I hope your Honour will consider our Sircumstances and lend us aid. I have Enclosed sent you a return of our Strength at this place, I am Sir Your most obed't humble Servant

Peter Vroman, Colonel.

To the Honble. B. Genl. Ten Broeck, Albany.

[Copy.]

[No. 1608.]

SEARCHING FOR EVIDENCE.

Against English Soldiers Who Dishonored the Parole Given at Saratoga.

Dear Sir, I am favourd with yours of the 21st Instant, in which you request I would undertake to Collect such Information, as can be obtaind, of the Infraction of the Convention of Saratoga. General Schuyler has sent a person into Canada, with directions to learn whether any of those, Included in the Convention, were Compelled to bear arms Since that time; but as the obscure Character in which he must appear will render it difficult for him procure Such proof as will be necessary, I would, therefore, Suggest whether it would not be a prudent Step to Send a man into

Opposse there is no scarcity of that article with you, I trust your Excellency's steady attention to the Interest of your Country, will induce you to grant this Request.

I am Sir with much Regard & Esteem, Your Excellency's most Obed't & most hum'e Servant

Jon'th Trumbull.

His Excellency, Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 1617.]

A MAN OF SPIRIT WANTED.

Colonel Peter R. Livingston's Observations on the Situation in Tryon County.

Manor Livingston 28 July 1778.

Dear Govenor, I Returned yesterday from Cherry Valley and Johnstown, and think it my duty to acquaint you from the observations I have made during my stay in that Westtrean part of this State, that unless a proper force of Continental troops are posted without the least delay at Schoharie, Cherry Valley, Fort Dayton, Stone Arabia and Johnstown, all that part of the State will be deserted by the Inhabitans and the Granary of our Country be exposed to the Depridations of a merciless Banditi of Savages. The crops of Wheat, Pease Oats & Corn are most extraordinary fine. Have been up as far as the beginning of the German Flatts thro' Stone Arabia and round by Cherry Valley.

I did meet 240 of Colo. Alden's Regi't going to the last place but an equal number is wanting at every one of the Posts, that on any immergency they may cooperate together, and by all the acc'ts that our Scouts brought in, I make no doubt they intend in a very short time to attack some one of those Posts, if not more, and distroy with an unrelenting and indiscriminate hand.

Butler it will I hope prevent the destruction of Schoharie &c. for the present, Especially as Colo. Alden's regiment is on Its return from Fort Schuyler, to which I thought it had been Improperly ordered and advised Gen. Ten Broeck to mention It to Gen. Stark, and to request that they might be sent to the German Flatts &c.

The militia from the Eastward which Gen. Gates Expects I believe will not arrive until the latter End of next month.

Inclose your Excellency Copy of a letter from Mr. Deane.

Mr. Taylor has shewed me your Excellency's letter to him on the Subject of the Convention of Saratoga. In Consequence of what you wrote me on that Subject I charged a man whom I sent Into Canada with some paper from Congress, to obtain all the Information he could. Mr. Taylor Suggested that It would probably be only hear say testimony. I fear so; we, therefore, Concluded to send for three or four of the Inhabitants of this state now In Canada provided you approved and that we were authorized to promise them pardons.

I am Dear Sir with Great Esteem Your Excellency's most Obedient Hum'e Servant

Ph: Schuyler.

His Ex. George Clinton, Esqr. &c.

[No. 1610.]

Deputy Commissary Bostwick on the Forage Question.

Fish Kill 26th July 1778.

Dear Gov'r, The arrival of Genl. Washington's army in this Quarter Renders it highly Expedient that we take every eligible method to Supply them with Forage, and as there are a number of People in this State who have it in their power but will not Supply us with any, unless Extremities are made use of, it will,

can convey what Intelligence they please to them; the greatest Part of them are already become burthensome to their Neighbours and in all Probability the whole of them will soon become a Burthen to the State for Support—we are of Opinion that it would conduce much to the Ease and Safety of the State that such women with their small Children be removed to the Enemy. We beg you will take this matter into Consideration and direct us how we shall act. We are Sir with Respect your most Hum'e Servants

Hugh Mitchell. Mat: Visscher, Jer. V Rensselaer.

His Excellency, George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1619.]

Colonel Livingston Desires to Raise a Company for Protection Against the Claverack Bandits.

Manor Livingston 29 July 78.

Dear Govenor, I did myself the pleasure of writing a few lines yesterday, since which have been informed of two or three Roberies in Claverack and this District, the former of which was very dairing and unless some force or Rangers are raised at the public expence to keep out in the woods and sarch suspected places, no friend to the Cause will be safe. If your Excellency sees fitt to give us liberty to raise a Company of 25 or 30 men, can procure a person that would gladly accept of it that well understands the woods and has himself been robbed by them. If a company of 30 men was raised in each District, it would strike an awe in them and prevent any of the Villians coming out. Several of my Neighbours has been here beging I would write to you about it and are willing to subscribe largely towards

Constitution I am not authorized to pardon Treasons yet I have the utmost Reason to believe the Legislature will extend Pardon to any Person who may be encouraged to expect it by the Persons imployed by me for the Effecting this Necessary Business. And I will use my utmost Influence for this Purpose. I mean to set Tomorrow for Head Qu'rs from whence I dont expect to Return in less than a Fortnight. Please to present my best Compliments to Mrs. Taylor in which Mrs. Clinton joins me. I am your Affectionate H Serv't

[G. C.]

To John Tayler, Esqr.

[No. 1612.]

Return of the Rifle Corps Under Captain Thomas Posey.

Return of the Detatchment of Rifle Men Under the Command of Capt. Commandant Thomas Posey. Albany July 28th 1778.

Companies	Officers present fit for Duty															Rank and file			
	Field			Commissioned				Staff				Non Commiss'd							
	Colonel	Lt. Colonel	Capt. Commandant	Captains	1st Lieuts.	2d Lieuts.	Ensigns	Adjut't	Pay Master	Qr. Master	Surgeon	Serjant Major	Qr. Mr. Serjt.	Serjants	Drums & fifes	Present fit for Duty	Sick present	On Furlough	Total
Capt. Long's			1	1	2		1	1	1	1	1	1		8		51	1	2	54
Capt. Parr's				1	3									4		47	2	6	55
Total			1	2	5		1	1	1	1	1	1		12		98	3	8	109

N. B. Lieut. Martin on Furlough.

One Serjant Sick present.

Thomas Posey, Capt. Commandant Rifle Core.

Whereupon the Scout returned, and the 27th Inst. [illegible] Rainschers being on Scout out at Harpersfield they returned, and in their Coming back several Indians [illegible] whereupon the Scout scattered and every one [illegible] made their Escape.

[illegible] if there be now yet any assistance for us, and you [illegible] Schohary saved, its time now, for we expect soon it [illegible] late; so we all hope you will do the utmost you pos- [illegible] for we have not man enough to stand and relieve [illegible] if a strong party attacks us. From your friend & most [illegible] Servand

Josep Bakker, Major.

Brigad'r Genl. Ten Broeck.

(Copy)

[No. 1621.]

FRICTION BETWEEN COMMANDERS.

General Stark Deprives Colonel Butler of a Chance for Distinction and the Latter Complains to Governor Clinton.

May it please your Excellency, I arrived here on the 27th Instant with the Detachment under my Command, & agreeable to your Excellency's Instructions I waited on General Stark & gave him Returns* of the Necessarys Actually wanting for the Corps at present, But could not be supply'd with a single Article.

I inclose a Copy of the Return & send an Officer who I can depend on to bring the Necessarys if he can be furnish'd with them.

The Rifle men have hardly a Shoe.

I must further Acquaint your Excellency that General Stark's Sentiments seem to differ widely from yours. His Motives I do

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*See page 589.

[No. 1615.]

A Company of Exempts Formed in Schenectady.

Schen'dy 28th July 1778.

Excel't Sir, Aggreeable to a Law of this State to regulate the militia, recommending all those who have heretofore Bore Commissions, as also all those who are from fifty to fifty five years of age, to form themselves into Companies & Chuse there Own Officers &ca., in Obedience to Said Law, a Number to the am't of fifty, have form'd themselves into a Company at this place and Chose the Undernamed Gentlemen for their Officers, Vizt.

Jacob Schermerhoorn, Capt. Isaac Glen first Lieut., Cornelis A. V'n Slyke, 2d do;

the above Number of Gentlemen having Chose me for their Captain, & delivered me a list of their names, have taken the Earliest Oppertunity to acq't you thereof; mean time beg leave to remain Your Excellency's most Obed't & Hbl. Serv't

Jacob Schermerhoorn.

His Excell'y, Gov'r Clinton.

P. S. Should your Excellency think there is any occasion for commissions, we should be glad to have them.

J. S.

[No. 1616.]

Governor Trumbull Makes a Request of Governor Clinton for Flour.

Lebanon July 28th 1778.

Sir, Maj'r Huntington who has the Care of building the Continental Frigate at Norwich, is in want of two hundred barrels of Flour for carrying on the building s'd Ship, & has applyd to me to request your Excellency to permit Maj'r Jno. Davenport of Stanford, to procure that quantity in the State of New York & transport it to him; as this is purely a Continental matter &

their pay as they are very suspicious they will again come up this moon. I have Ordered a party back of the manor and have engaged their pay out of our own pockets, as was Obl'd to do a very considerable party that went in sarch of the fellows that robbed Moore, besides going myself, in order to serve that ungrateful fellow. Beg your Excellency will give us leave to endeavour to have a small com'y here and in the Camp and shall send the names for the officers as I know of no other method to save the Inhabitants from ruin. Am with great Regard Your Very Humb. serv't

Peter R. Livingston.

[To Gov. George Clinton.]

[No. 1620.]

Major Joseph Baker Reports the Presence of Prowling Indians and Tories Near Schoharie.

Schohary July 29th 1778.

Sir, Whereas we are by certain directions convinced that the Enemy are very near of Schohary, but we cannot assure of what number; the direction we have I will acquaint you of, which is the Inhabitants of Cobes Kill went home partly to gather their Wheat yesterday, and as some of them came to the upper end of that Settlement, they heard one Shot and a Hog cried as if it was being killed, and a little after two Guns being shot of near a mile from the place where the first was; whereon the Cobes Kill people immediately left their places and returned to Schohary and arrived by midnight; whereupon a Scout being sent this day and returned by Sun Set who informed us that some of the remainder Cattle of Cobus Kill being drove off and as they was following the path to discover, a Gun being discharged hard be-

fore them, whereupon the Scout returned, and the 27th Inst. Lieutenant Dietz Rainschers being on Scout out at Harpersfield where they returned, and in their Coming back several Indians pursued them, whereupon the Scout scattered and every one after the other made their Escape.

Therefore, if there be now yet any assistance for us, and you mean have Schohary saved, its time now, for we expect soon it will be too late; so we all hope you will do the utmost you possibly can, for we have not man enough to stand and relieve Schohary if a strong party attacks us. From your friend & most obedient Servand

Josep Bakker, Major.

To Brigad'r Genl. Ten Broeck.

(Copy)

[No. 1621.]

FRICTION BETWEEN COMMANDERS.

General Stark Deprives Colonel Butler of a Chance for Distinction and the Latter Complains to Governor Clinton.

May it please your Excellency, I arrived here on the 27th Instant with the Detachment under my Command, & agreeable to your Excellency's Instructions I waited on General Stark & gave him Returns* of the Necessarys Actually wanting for the Corps at present, But could not be supply'd with a single Article.

I inclose a Copy of the Return & send an Officer who I can depend on to bring the Necessarys if he can be furnish'd with them.

The Rifle men have hardly a Shoe.

I must further Acquaint your Excellency that General Stark's Sentiments seem to differ widely from yours. His Motives I do

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*See page 589.

not pretend to Judge, but on my showing him my Instructions he said it was impossable to carry on Offensive Operations against the Enemy at present and, (to make use of his own words) "it woud be like pulling a Cat by the Tail to get out the Militia at this time;" he says some time hence we may Attack them, & intimates that [he] intends to Command the Expedition himself.

He has also Ordered Colonel Alden to join his Regiment now lying at Cherry Valley which deprives me of the Honor your Excellency intended me in the Command of the whole.

If your Excellency thinks me worthy of the Command and impowers me to carry on Offensive measures against the Enemy I will do it at the Risque of my Honor & every thing I hold sacred.

If this cannot be I will do my duty in the Command of my Detachment.

I shall send Off Fifty men as soon as their Rifles are repaired which I expect will be to morrow & follow with the Remainder as soon as possible for Schohary.

I waited on General Tenbrook, last Evening who informs me that he has now at Schohary upwards of 100 Men & had Ordered out a Number more which in the whole wou'd amount to 300, But seem'd to intimate that perhaps some of them cou'd not be depended on.

I have the Honor to be with due Respect your Excellency's Obed't Serv't

Wm. Butler.

Albany July 29th 1778.

N. B. Genl. Tenbrook also informs me that there is no doubt but Tryon County will turn out 300 Men.

His Excellency, George Clinton.

[No. 1622.]

Capture of John Snow, "a Daring Villian."

Napenagh 30 July 1778.

Sir. Leiut. Wesbrouck Haveing Received Intillegence that John Snow a Noted Villan Was at Packatackan, on Which he Immediately proceeded to that place and has taken him prisoner; this Snow Was Down With that partty Which Lately Commited the mischeafe at Laghawack has also been Imployed By Butler as an armour; he had With him a mare of the Widdow Cole of Lackawack, Which Mr. Wesbrouck has also Brought Down With him.

I Would farther Inform you that this Snow is a Daring Villian and Will Stick at Nothing to make his Escape; he Vellies him Self at Villeny and has Contrivence more then Common; So that I fear that if he is Not tacken perticular Care of he Will find means to get of.

The Information that Mr. Wesbrouck Could git their of the Enemy, Was that Butler Was Lately at Aughquago and Intended for Schohary or fort Schuyler; he had Sent Ben, ye Indian to Papaton & Packatackan to Desire the Tories to Come to him at that place Some time Last Weak, But Could Not Learn that any of them Where gon. I am Your Hum. Ser.

John Cantine.

To his Excellency, George Clinton.

[No. 1623.]

Statements of Deserters from the Enemy.

George Hall, a Native of England, and lately a Soldier under General Sullivan under Examination, saith, that he was taken a prisoner on Staten Island by the Enemy on 22 Aug't last, and after being a prisoner 8 months, Inlisted (with a view of obtain-

ing his Liberty) in Colo. Bayard's Regt., which lays beyond Kings Bridge and Consists of ab't 250; Colo. Delancey's Do. 300, and 45th Regt. ab't 400;—52d Regt. ab't 300 and 2 Hessian Regts., strength unknown; Colo. Emerrit ab't 50, the amount that lay at and near the Bridge—fort Independence Garrison'd with Hessians, dont know the Number not being allowed to Enter it—all the Redoubts to the Southward of the fort mounted with men and Cannon; No. 4 mounted by 36 men by night & day—last Sunday week Brown's & Fanning's Regts. Embarked and were to go East End of Long Island as he was Informed he saw them march off the Ground.

John Howel a Native of England &c., saith, that No. 4 & 5 mounted by 36 men each formerly, this week No. 5 mounted only by 25 men.

James Collins a Native of England &c., saith that the 2 Hessian Regts. lay at fort Washington and a British Train of artillery & one of Hessian Consists of ab't 50 each.

John Brooks a Native of Ireland &c. was taken near Piscataway ab't 1 year ago. N. B. the Troops which Embarked lay near Hart Island.

[July 1778.]

[No. 1624.]

John Tayler's Bill and Receipt for Moneys Paid in Obtaining Testimony as to Infractions of the Saratoga Convention.

His Excellency Governor Clinton To John Tayler Dr.

1778 July.

To cash paid three deserters for detaining them from going down the River in order to obtain their Evidence Relative to the Infraction of the Convention of Saratoga £2 0 0

To John Boorbach Esqr. for taking affidavits.....	4 0
To John Lansing Esqr. for cash expended by him in obtaining Evidence on the above mention'd Subj-ct	10 5 4
	£12 9 4

Received the above contents in Specie.

John Tayler.

[No. 1625.]

GENERAL TEN BROECK WILLING TO COOPERATE.

Although the Time of Many of His Troops is Expired He Will Endeavor to Order Out One-quarter of His Brigade.

Albany 1st August 1778.

Sir, I wrote your Excellency the 27th Ultimo & acknowledged the Receipt of your fav'rs of the 21st & 24th Ultimo. Part of Lt. Col. Butler's Detachment of about 60 men marched the day before yestarday for Schohary & took with them a Brass field P's & an Iron 3 or 4 Pounder, but there is no shot for the later; when the Remainder will march I don't know, but understand they will in a day or two. I send your Excellency Inclosed Copy of a letter I Rec'd on Thursday morning by Express from major Bakker* at Schohary, which on Receipt, I Communicated to General Stark; he then Requested me to Order the one half of the City militia & the one half of the Company between the City & [illegible]e Patroon's mills, Immediately to march to Schohary for a [illegible]w days which I have done & they are marched. The time of [illegible]e militia of my Brigade now in Service at Schohary & Cherry [illegible]ey will Expire in about a fortnight. I Beg leave to Enclose a [illegible] which your Excell'cy will see the number of men I [illegible]ut; of those Ordered to Cherry Valey only 130 men

*See pages 594-595.

& of those Ordered to Schohary 140 have marched. I have given Orders to the Officer at Schohary, Similar to those your Excel'cy has given to the officers Commanding the Guards on the frontier South of Schohary. I have appointed a meeting of the officers Commanding Regiments in my Brigade on Monday next, when I mean to Communicate to them your Excell'cys Requisition of the 24th Ultimo & Endeavour to fall upon a Plan to gett the ¼ part of my Brigade to turn out, for which Purpose I shall Issue my Order Conformable to your Excellency's Requisition to Co-operate with Lieut. Col. Butler & be under his Direction to carry on Offensive Operations against the Enemy, & Cover the Frontier Inhabitants. You may be assured, Sir, that I will afford General Stark & Lt. Col. Butler every assistance in my Power to facilitate the Intended operations. I forgot to mention that Alden's Regiment is at Cherry Valey & that it Consists of some thing better then 200 men, as I am Informed. A Commission appointing me Brigadier General of the militia of the County of Albany dated the 25th day of June 1778 & a list of officers appointed in this Brigade I have Received from Mr. Bancker, D. Secry. This list Differs in one Instance at least from the Returns I transmitted your Excell'cy, namely in the Schacktekoke Regt., of which Peter Yates is appointed Colonel; another Gentleman was Recommended. I Remain with great Respect Your Excellency's most Obedient Humble Servant

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

His Excellency George Clinton, Esqr.

[No. 1626.]

John E. Van Alen Submits a Letter to Governor Clinton.

Sir, I this day came to Poughkeepsie with the Inclosed Letter* but as your Excellency was not at Home, and my business would

*For permission to export flour.

coming down to Head Quarters I thought best to
is to be forwarded by an Express which I am told

r alluded to in the Inclosed Letter might possibly
have taken a true Copy thereof, which I also in-

Excell'y deign speedily to answer Mr. Hobby's
l infinitely oblige him. I am Sir Your Excellency's
and very Humble Servant

John E. Van Alen.

1 August 1778.

ency. Governor Clinton.

[Nos. 1627-1628.]

r *Selected to Conduct Tories to the British Lines.*

Camp White Plains 2d Aug't 1778.

Lieut. Colo. Burr is appointed by his Excellency
ton at my Request, to Conduct such Persons as
take the Oath of Allegiance to this State, pre-
ate Act of the Legislature, within the Enemies
is purpose the Colo. will attend tomorrow at
erefore, to request that some one of your Board
hat Place & where I expect you will have made
reparation to carry this Business into immedi-
to give the Officer as little Trouble or Delay
egg Leave to mention that if a Board of Com-
ed in this County to set contiguous to Head
f public Advantage & afford great Ease to
Washington who as well as myself is desir-
se. I am your Most Obed't Serv't

G. C.

Conspiracies at Poughkeepsie.

A Flagg is hereby given to Lieut. Colo. Burr or such other Person as he shall appoint to proceed to the City of New York or such other Place within the Enemy's Lines as he may think proper with the Sloop ——— having on board the follow'g Persons Inhabitants of this State who affect to hold allegiance to king of Great Britian vizt. ——— ——— ——— ——— who are to be landed & left within the Enemy's Lines the Sloop w'h the hands mentioned in the margin to navigate her will return with all conv't Expedition.

Given at North Castle in Westchester County this 2d Aug't 1778.

[No. 1629.]

COLONEL BURR'S GUESTS.

A List of Persons Who Refused to Take the Oath of Allegiance to the United States.

Poughkeepsie August 3rd 1778.

Sir, Your Excellency's favour of the 2nd Instant is come to hand this day; we are happy for the attention you have paid to the removal of such persons as refuse to take the Oath, in procuring Collo. Burr to assist in the Execution thereof, and according to your request one of our members Mr. Wynkoop attend him this day at the Fishkill.

We perfectly agree with your Excellency in the expediency of having a board of Commissioners formed Contiguous to head quarters, we Shall immediately take the necessary measures if possible to have it Effected.

Agreeable to the Directions of the act we Inclose your Excellency a further return of such persons as have refused to take the Oath. Your Excellency will, therefore, be pleased by the earliest opportunity to Signify to us whether you would Chuse to detain

any of them, for the purpose mentioned in the act. We would, however, observe to your Excellency that among those, who are to be sent down is a certain Samuel Frame, who we would advise to be detained for an exchange, we have for that purpose Ordered him in Close confinement. We have the Honour to be with due respect, Your Excellency's most Obedient Humble Ser'ts,

Zepha'h Platt, Robert Harpur, Peter Cantine, Jun'r.

Excellency, George Clinton.

State of New York Ss,

To his Excellency George Clinton, Esquire, Governor of the state of New York, General and Commander in Chief of all the militia and admiral of the navy of the same.

IN PURSUANCE of an act of the Legislature of this State, Entitled "An Act more effectually to prevent the mischiefs arising "from the Influance and Example of persons of Equivocal and Sus- " pected Characters in this State" We do hereby notify your Excellency that James Smith, Cornelius Luyster and John Terrill Esquires, and Dirck Van Vliet all of Dutchess County, Samuel Fowler, Andrew Graham, John Michael Kern and Solomon Eltinge of Ulster County, and James Peters of Orange County, Having Severally appeared before us, and being Respectively by us Tendered the Oath in the said act Contained did respectively refuse the same, and that unless your Excellency shall think proper to detain them for the purpose of Exchanging them, for any of the Subjects of this State in the power of the Enemy, we Shall cause them Respectively to be removed to Some place within the Enemy's Lines.

Cor's C. Schoonmaker, Zepha. Platt, Peter Cantine Ju'r, Robt. Harpur, Commissioners.

Poughkeepsie 1st August 1778.

State of New York Ss,

To his Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the State of New York, General and Commander in Chief of all the militia, and admiral of the navy of the same.

IN PURSUANCE of an act of the Legislature of this State, Entitled "An Act more effectually to prevent the mischiefs, arising "from the Influence and Example of persons of Equivocal and Sus-"pected Characters in this State" We do hereby notify your Excellency that William Lupton and Samuel Frame of Ulster County, James Scott, Theophilus Nelson and Ridgebell Williams of Dutchess County, Having Severally appeared before us, and being Respectively by us Tendered the Oath in the said act Contained did respectively refuse the Same, and that unless your Excellency Shall think proper to detain them for the purpose of Exchanging them for any of the Subjects of this State in the power of the Enemy, we Shall cause them Respectively to be removed to some place within the Enemy's Lines.

Cor's C. Schoonmaker, Zepha. Platt, Peter Cantine Ju'r, Robt. Harpur, Commissioners.

Poughkeepsie 1st August 1778.

Names of Persons who have refused to take the Oath prescribed in a late act of the Legislature: James Ellice, of Schenectady, Merchant; Daniel Campbell, of Do, and late one of the Judges of Inf'r Court; John Visger, of Do, and late Justice of the Peace; Peter Van Schaack, of Kinderhook, Attorney at Law; John Thurman, of Coxsackie, Merchant; John Van Aelen, of Albany, and late Justice of the Peace; Henry Staats, of Do, Merchant; Gysbert G. Marselis, of Do, and late Asst. Judge of Inf'r Court.

Peter Van Schaak, James Ellice, Alexander White, James Dole, John Cumming to be detained for Exchange. Peter Van Schaak to be permitted to go in to New York on Parole, taken to the Gov'r, to return in three or four weeks, unless he can have a Person sent out in Exchange. These Persons & Mr. Henry Cuyler are to be put in Close Confinement untill exchanged.

Names of Persons who have refused to take the Oath prescribed in a late Act of the Legislature: Richard Cartwright, Innholder; Peter Vosburgh, late Justice of the Peace; Lowrence Goes, Merchant; Harmon Pruyn, Skipper; William Rea, Merchant; Barent Van Der Pool, Farmer; Andries Huyck, Farmer; Benjamin Baker, Potash maker; Henry Van Dyck, Physician; Cornelius Glen, Merchant; Henry Ten Eyck, late High Sheriff; James Dole, Merchant; John Witbeck; Volckert Van Veghten, Farmer; Marte Van Buren, Farmer; Richard Minifee, Innholder; Gysbert Fonda, Merchant; John Stevenson, Merchant; Absolom Woodward, Merchant; Dirk Gardinier, Farmer; Mathew Goes, Jun'r, Farmer; John D. Goes, Farmer; John Cumming, Farmer; Isaac Mann, Farmer; John Kortz, Jun'r, Cordwainer; Alexander White, late high Sheriff of Tryon County.

Albany 4th August 1778.

[No. 1630.]

Washington Favors Giving Butler an Independent Command.

Camp at White Plains 4th Aug't 1778.

Sir, I am favoured with your Letter of the 29th Ultimo. A few Days after you left Poughkeepsie I set out for this Place and immediately on my arival at Camp I made it my Business to acquaint his Excellency Genl. Washington with your Desire of having the Grass Hoppers formerly annexed to your Detachment

forwarded to you & the necessity of having your Men properly supplied with Cloathing for effecting both which his Excellency promised to give the necessary Orders.

On the Receipt of your Letter I communicated the Contents to the Genl. he assured me that he places great Confidence in your Zeal & Abilities to serve your Country in the Command of Offensive Opperation ag't the Indians & that if it can be done without giving just Cause of Offence to Officers of Supperior Rank he wishes you may have the Command of the Detachments allotted for that Service. His Excellency has lately rec'd Dispatches on this Subject from Congress which may change in some Measure the Plan I proposed to pursue ag't the Savages & untill I am informed with the Result I cannot write you more fully.

We hear this Morning that the French Fleet have arrived at Rhode Island & blocked up the Harbour. From that Quarter we may daily expect the most Important News. In this we have none except that Desertions from the Enemy continues to prevail & rather increases. Believe me with great Regard & Esteem Your Most Obed't Serv't

G. C.

Lieut. Colo. Wm. Butler.

[No. 1631.]

Major Moses Hatfield Appointed Commissary of Hides.

War Office Philadelphia July 21, 1778.

Sir, As the main army is now removed to your state, and the commissary of hides, who has hitherto attended it, finds the business of the department on this side the North River sufficient for his employment, and as both he and his assistants are unwilling to leave this district, we must ask the favour of you to appoint

uitable person to manage the business with the main army hin your state. We understand your Council long since apnted such a commissary for the troops then in the state. His hority extended may perhaps answer for the whole. But we er it entirely to you to make such appointments in the case you shall think best for the public good. Mr. Ewing, whose istants are yet with the main army, will continue his care of hides until relieved by the person you appoint; to whom also will give any information in his power relative to the departnt.

We beg your pardon for giving you this trouble: but Mr. Ewing mpatient to quit the main army now 'tis removed from hence; l we are ignorant of the most proper person in your state to ceed him. You will be pleased to inform us whom you appoint this service, & what instructions you give him. He will doubts be confirmed by Congress. We have the honour to be Your cellency's most obed't servants,

By order of ye board Tim: Pickering.

vernour Clinton.

Camp at White Plains 4th Aug't 1778.

Sir, I am requested by the Board of War to appoint a suitable rson for Commissary of Hides for the Grand Army on this le of the River with Assurances that such Appointment will be nfirmed by Congress; And as I know of no Person better quallid to serve the Public in this Capacity whom I woud more willgly serve than yourself I give you the offer of this Berth, which o I am neither aquainted with the Duty or Emolluments of it, ave no Doubt but it is worth your Acceptance. If you accept e Appointment you will please to repair to this Place immedi-

ately; at any Rate let me have your answer by the Return of the Express who is charged with the Delivery of this Letter. Colo. Ewing the present Commissary will wait here till you arive & give you every Necessary Information respecting your Duty. Yours

G. C.

To Major Hatfield at Goshen.

State of New York.

Pursuant to a Letter from the hon'ble the Board of War, to me Dated the 21st Day of July 1778, requesting me to appoint a suitable Person as Commissary of Hides for the main Army within this State, I do hereby nominate & appoint Major Moses Hatfield, of Goshen, in Orange County to that Office, who is immediately to enter upon the Execution of his Office, Governing himself therein by such Instructions as Colo. Ewing, the late Commissary of Hides, may have received from Congress or the Commander in Chief with which Colo. Ewing will furnish him.

Given at Poughkeepsie the Eleventh Day of Aug't 1778.

Geo: Clinton.

[No. 1632.]

WORK OF THE SUPREME COURT.

Convictions and Sentences and Recommendations for Pardon to the Governor.

Albany Aug't 4th 1778.

Sir, On Saturday last the July Term of the Supreme Court of this State ended: During the Term the following persons were convicted and Sentenced to be executed, to wit:

John Sloss. Upon an Indictment for stealing a Horse of George White, and another of Abner Pease.

And also on an Indictment for the Robbery of George White. His Conviction was upon full Evidence.

John Sloss also stands indicted by three several Bills for the Robbery of Henry Van Rensselaer, the Robbery of Isaac Sheldon and Abner Pease, and for stealing a Horse of Isaac Sheldon. On these he is not tried.

Robert Sloss. Upon an Indictment for stealing a Horse of George White and one of Abner Pease;

On an Indictment for the Robbery of George White;

On another for stealing a Horse of Isaac Sheldon;

of Isaac Sheldon & Abner Pease;
of Henry Van Rensselaer.
retracted his Several Pleas of not guilty, and confessed
with he stood Charged upon the above several Indictments:
for the Commission of those Crimes that he was a
in the action at Bemus's Heights on the ninth of Oc-
of the wound he had received, conceived he was justi-
Crimes, upon the Principle that we were Enemies of the
a right to distress us where he could.
Indictment for stealing a Horse of George White and
on another Indictment for the Robbery of George White.
clear Evidence.
charged by several Indictments for the Robbery of Henry
and Abner Pease, and for stealing a Horse of Isaac Shel-
not tried. He was also indicted at the last Court of Oyer and
quantity of Continental Effects out of a covered Continental
been tried.
Indictment for Burglary at the House of Jabez Crippen. She was
confessing last year before the Commissioners of Conspiracy,
others, that She was of the party and at the House with them,

ter—Upon the same Indictment. The proof with respect to
to the proof of her Confession before the Commissioners last
the House & taken one Cheere, the proprietor of the Effects
not know her at the Time the Burglary was committed, yet
day, & heard her voice, he recognized her as one of the
the House.
beg Leave to recommend the following to your Excellency for

appeared to us in the Course of the Evidence that he behaved
the persons who were robbed than his accomplices, and pre-
ring Captain White.
Detecting Conspiracies have also informed us that his Testi-
in Convicting others, whose Crimes it is said are aggravated
Rapine and wanton Cruelty, and one of them at least is in

the Burglary whereof she is convicted could only be made
Law. No doors or Locks were broken— and there were only
together with a Shirt & some other Linnen of trifling value.
convicted upon her own Confession, which went no farther than
House tho She had not entered. 3dly Because tho' not married
of about fifteen months old.
young woman—Although so many circumstances cannot be al-
the first reason assigned in favour of Ann Taylor will equally

Leave to observe to your Excellency both Ann & Catharine Tay-
receiving Scienter Goods and Chattles taken from Henry Van
of the Robbery at his House. So that Should your Excellency be
crime whereof they are convicted, if they should be convicted of
will probably receive a punishment which will not affect their
opinion of the public satisfy the public Justice of the Country,
them, and prevent their pursuing such vicious practices in future.
to be with perfect Esteem & Respect Your Excellency's most
ts

Robert Yates
Jno. Sloss Hobart

red for Execution on the Eighteenth instant.
or Clinton.

nts against John Sloss whereon he was convicted & Sentence

le &c. present, that John Sloss late of the district of Kinder-
Albany, Labourer, on the 15th day of May in the year of our
of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, in the County of Albany afs.

with force and arms in the Common highway therein & upon George White & Abner Pease respectively in the peace of God & of the people of this State of New York, then & there being an assault did make and them, the said George White & Abner Pease, respectively, in bodily fear & danger of their Lives in the Highway af'd then and there feloniously did put and one man's saddle of the value of £3 4 lawful money &ca. one Bridle &ca. (and Bills of Credit of various values described in the Indictm't amounting to a Considerable sum of money); from the person & against the will of the s'd George White in the Highway aforesaid then and there feloniously & violently did Steal take & carry away ag't the peace of the people of this state & their Dignity.

The Jurors of the people &c. present, that John Sloss, late of the District of Kinderhook, in the County of Albany, Labourer, on the 15th day of May Anno 1778, with force and arms at the district of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, in the County of Albany, af'd one Gelding, of a dark bay Colour, of the price of £60 lawful money of the State of New York, of the Goods & Chattles of George White, and one Gelding, of a Sorrell Colour, of the price of £15 of like lawful money aforesaid, of the Goods & Chattels of Abner Pease, then and there found, violently & feloniously, did Steal take & lead away against the peace of the people of this State & their Dignity.

N. B. Robt. Sloss Arch'd McCoy & Neil Taylor are also charged in each of the above Indictments.

Of the Term of July in the year of our Lord One Thousand Seven hundred and Seventy Eight.

Albany County Ss. The Jurors of the People of the State of New York for the body of the City & County of Albany upon their Oath present, that Archibald McCoy, otherwise called John McCoy, late of the district of Kinderhook, in the County of Albany, Blacksmith, Christeen Taylor, late of the same place, widow, Ann Taylor late of the same place, Spinster, Catharine Taylor, late of the same place, Spinster, Mary Fairchild, late of the same place, Spinster, Mary McKinsey, the wife of John McKinsey, late of the same place, yeoman, and John Hoff, late of Kings district, in the said County, Cordwainer, on the Twenty fourth day of August in the year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Seventy Seven, about two of the Clock in the night of the same day, with Force and arms at Kings district in the said County of Albany, the dwelling House of Jabez Crippen, there situated, feloniously and Burglariously did break and enter, and twelve Cheeses each of the value of thirty Shillings lawful money of the State of New York, one man's new Shirt of the value of two pounds of like lawful money aforesaid, one Boy's Shirt of the value of Eight Shillings, of like lawful money aforesaid three Linnen Cloaths, usually called Children's Clouts, or layers each of the value of two Shillings & eight pence, like lawful money aforesaid, two linnen Towels, each of the value of four Shillings like lawful money aforesaid of the Goods & Chattles of the said Jabez Crippen in the same dwelling House being found, feloniously and Burglariously then and there did Steal take & carry away against the peace of the people of this State and their Dignity.

A true Copy.

John McKesson, Clerk of Supreme Court.

[No. 1633.]

Milford Smith Claims His Mistress Manumitted Him.

Hon'd Sir, I beg leave to return you my sincere thanks for your kindness to me when I was in the family, and I am heartily sorry it was not in my power to wait upon you before my leaving the City with the Kings Army. Your constant goodness encourages me to ask a particular favor of you: I am inform'd that my late mistress, Margaret Child,* denies her having given me my Free-

*See pages 662-664.

dom, and as you, kind Sir, are well acquainted with the whole matter, I humbly request you will get the instrument of writing, by which she freed me, recorded in the proper office in Pennsylvania, as a perpetual security to me in case she should claim me. The instrument mentioned is inclosed, to be forwarded by a friend of mine now in this City. Hon'd Sir, I sincerely pray for your health and happiness and am, Your Humble Servant

Signed Milford Smith.

New York 5th August 1778.

N. B. The paper is in the hands of Mr. Anthony Benezet, which you will please to speak to him to have recorded as soon as he can, without acquainting Mrs. Child of it.

directed to Robert S. Jones, Esqr.

[Copy]

[No. 1634.]

Private Secretary Benson Directs that Mr. Bayard and His Family Be Allowed to Proceed to New York.

Camp White Plains Aug't 5h 1778.

Gentlemen, I am directed by his Excell'cy the Gov'r to inform you that it is his wish that Mr. Bayard & family should be permitted to proceed to New York in one of the vessels under your direction agreable to the Permission heretofore granted them; & he therefore requests that you'l notify him of the next Sloop which you may send down w'th other Persons, as he probably will not be able to get ready to proceed w'th this in which Mr. Smith is ing. His Excellency desires that the Sloop now going may be patched as soon as possible. I am &c.

R. B. [Robert Benson.]

Gentlemen Commiss'rs &c.

[No. 1635.]

Association of Exempts of Kingston and Hurley, Ulster County.

A Return of the Voluntary associated company of Militia in the Townships of Kingston and Hurley in Ulster County, whereof Andries De Witt junior is Captain.

Andries DeWitt, jun'r, Capt., Oke Sudam, first Lieut., Henry J. Sleght, Second Lieut., Elias Haasbrook, Ensign;

Ephraim Low, Henry Jansen, Benjamin Ten Broeck, Coenradt C. Elmendorp, Sergts;

Samuel Swart, Benjamin Myer, Nich's V. Der Lyne, Abraham Turk, Corporals;

Privates: Moses Cantine, Peter Van Gaasbeek, Johannes Snyder jun'r, Peter Roggen, Abraham Ten Eyck, Peter J. Elmendorp, Henry Myer, Jury W. Rightmyer, Cornelius J. Elmendorp, Christian Fero, Evert Wynkoop jun'r, John Dumont, Thomas V. Gaasbeek, John Newkerk, James Beekman, Joshua Dubois, Jacobus Lefferts, Abraham Brinkerhoff, Nicholas Kiersted, Matthew Ten Eyck, Jacobus Hardenbergh, Anthony Boron, Abraham A. Haasbrook, Petrus Dumont, William Cafor, Henry Constable, Cornelius Dubois.

Andries D'Witt Jun. Capt.

Kingston August 6th 1778.

[No. 1636.]

Governor Clinton Declines to Raise the Flour Embargo on Massachusetts and Gives Good Reasons.

Camp at White Plains 6th Aug't 1778.

Sir, Two Days since I was honored with the Receipt of your r of the 16th Ultimo. It is with real Concern I learn that itants of your State are apprehensive of suffering by the

Want of a proper Supply of Flour & Grain for their Consumption. And what greatly adds to my anxiety is the little prospect I have at present of being able to afford them the Relief sollicited for without distressing the Grand Army now in this State. Immediately on the Receipt of your Letter I communicated the Contents to the Commissary Genl. of Purchases with a View of convening the Legislature & of recommending it to them in the most pressing Terms to repeal the Embargo Law so far as it respected the Exportation of Flour and Grain to the Neighbouring States if it might be done consistent with the good of the public Service. But he assures me that the necessary Supplies of Flour & Grain for the Army depends on a Continuation of our Embargo and that even an unfaithful Execution of it might be productive of the most fatal Consequences. This being the Case, Sir, notwithstanding our ardent Desire of accomodating a Sister State with whom we wish to cultivate the most Friendly Intercourse by the exchange of good Offices, we must in the present Instance, submit for a Time to the lesser to avoid the greater Evil. I am led to believe that tho your State fails in producing a sufficient Quantity of Grain for the Support of its Inhabitants throughout the year, yet the coming in of their Harvest will afford them such a present Supply as to prevent Immediate Distress by the Want of that Essential Article & that before such an unhappy Event can take Place the Situation of our affairs will be Such as to warrant the Repeal of our Embargo & thereby enable your People to draw the necessary Supplies from this State.

It does not require much Speculation to discover that an Inland Embargo on the Staple Commodity of a State excluded from all Foreign Trade is highly Injurious to the Interest of its Inhabitants. In this Point of View we consider the present Law & sub-

mit to it as a sacrafise of Interest to the Common Cause. It is needless, therefore, to add assurances that as soon as the public Exigencies of the United States may admit of it the Law will be repealed & a free Commutation of the different Necessaries of Life opened on our Part with our Neighbours. I am Sir with very great Respect & Regard Your Most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

To the hon'ble Jeremiah Powel, Esqr. Presid't of the Council Boston.

[No. 1637.]

In Relation to a New Court of Oyer and Terminer.

Albany August 6th 1778.

Sir, As it is necessary that the precept to the Sherif for summoning a Court of Oyer and Terminer should be under the Hand and Seal of at least one of the Commissioners of the Quorum, I have delivered a draft of a Precept for the next Court, to be held by virtue of such Commission in this County, to Mr. Justice Yates, who on sight of the Commission will sign, seal and forward the precept with the Commission. Whenever, therefore, it may be thought proper to issue the Commission, your Excellency will please to order it to be sent to Mr. Justice Yates at Claverack.

Robert Sloss and John Sloss two of the prisoners now under Sentence for Execution are both charged as principals in an Indictment found at the last Court of Oyer & Terminer in this County for the Robbery of Arent Van Schaack, of Coxsackie, for which offence they have not been tried. This is no otherways material than that the judges intended your Excellency should

have a full state of the several Charges against the prisoners. and if I mistake not. this Indictment was omitted to be mentioned in the Representation sent to you by their Honors.

With most respectful Compliments to your good Lady & Mrs. Tappen I have the Honor to be Your Excellency's most obedient humble Servant

John McKesson.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 1638.]

Janet Clemming of Albany in Quest of Military Information.

Camp Middle fort Schohary Aug't 8th 1778.

The Deposition of Searjt. Richards. 4th Pensylvenia Regiment —on the 2d day of this Month. he Rec'd his pay of the Regiment, he went to Albany.to the house of Jennet Clemming; that he went into her Store to Buy some Articles; She asked him where he came from; he told her from the White Plains; She asked him where the Troops were going; he told her against Butler; She asked him when they were to march; he said he could not tell; she said she would give any thing to know, for that she had a great many friends and Acquaintance, with Butler. & wanted to send them word; he told her that he could not tell nothing about the Time they would march. untill orders was given; she asked him to let her know when orders was given; he Told her he would, but never went near her afterwards.

James Richards.

Sworn and Subscribed before me this Eighth day of August 1778.

True Copy Examined by*

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* Indecipherable.

[No. 1639.]

DEATH OF SERVICE AND SMITH, THE TORIES.

Damaging Letters Addressed to Walter Butler and Brant Found in Their Possession.

Dear Sir, Six deserters of McLean's Regiment arrived here last Friday from the Isle aux Noix; by their deposition which you have Inclosed, you'll perceive they have given Some useful Intelligence Relative to the Infraction of the Convention of Saratoga. I thought it adviseable to Transmit the same Immediately, that your Excellency might have an oppertunity of having them farther Interrogated Should you deem it necessary, as they propose Setting off for head-Quarters to morrow morning.

One Thompson with three other Tories were taken by a party of Riffle men back of Schoharie & a Certain, Service,* a noted and Zealous defender of his King's bad Cause was killed. Two letters were found with those fellows; a Copy of one directed to Joseph Brandt, I Inclose, the other to Butler of the Same purport. A Party of Pennsylvanians and Rifle men were dispatch'd in Search of Smith and his party; they were met near Schoharie Creek, when Capt. Long of the Riffle men fired at and shot Smith through the head. General Stark received his Scalp last night. One prisoner was taken; the rest of the party twenty four in number, Escaped, owing to Schoharie Creek being between them and our men. The noted and daring Robber, Neal Taylor, is now Confind in the Gaol of this City; he has a Suit of Cloaths on taken among many other Articles not two Weeks ago from a farmer about Six miles from this City. Mrs. Tayler Joins in best respects to Mrs. Clinton, & Would be Exceeding happy to see Mrs.

*This military operation was planned and executed by Colonel William Butler. See pages 630-632.

'm With Due Esteem D'r Sir Your Most

John Tayler.

Harpers Feild July 27th 1778.

Compliments I take this Oppertunity to Inform you
n as Deligent as I Can Posible, in getting of men But
being at Hand the men Could not Leave here untill they
got there Grain Cut, But Know as most of them is got there
rain in and Taken Care of, I Expect many to Cum with me, but
There is one thing that Hinders, they are a Fraid that the Rebels
will Ruen them Before we Cum to there assistance and tha are
afrade to Leave home. But I Give them the Gratest Incourage-
mint as I Think It my Duty so to Do But them men that Cum
From Younedille [Unadilla] has Discouraged the People, and
said we Sufferd for want of Provisions and that the Indians Took
away the Plunder, and for that reason Hindered many From
Cuming to Join us, & I Told as it was my Duty that it was Fals,
as was my Duty, and no Truth in it. But that we had the Best of
usage and Grate Plenty of Provisions, and what we wanted was
that the Frends for Goverment would Cum and Show themselves
and tha might not suffer with the Rebels. I was a Coming to
see you, But met Archibald Thompson and Returnd Back to bring
out my men & Join as Soon as Posible & Bring them from Bos-
tick, from the Beaver Dam, from Healborake and them Parts,
But I am Obliged to Say more than the Truth to Incourage them
to Cum out. I Shall make you understand they Expect you to
oharie, and make all the Preperations they Can, but the

...sion, and but Few men to be had for tha
...ney Expecting the Shipping up the river
...ny I understand have give them a Sad
...d to Albany for more men or tha must Soon
... see you Soon & hope I Shall march in Frunt
... and Some of my men Panted So Please to give
...ern. Sir, I am Y'r H Ser't

Charles Smith.

[Walter N Butler.]

... Cumming for Orders, But met with Archibald
... finding the time Short I have made Bold to write
... of Goverment in your name. I Beg you will not
... with me for it. I have Sent you a Little Tobacco by
... I Shuld be glad to receive a Letter from you as I
... Left at Mr. Survises with Orders what to Do. I am
...ble Ser't

Charles Smith.

...]

... Joseph Brant.

... with Care and Speed.

[No. 1640.]

Commissary Currie Suggests Reciprocity with Massachusetts.

Fishkills Aug't 9th 1778.

... In the Month of July last I was advanced by the Trea-
... of this State £5000 in order to purchase Articles not Pro-
... by the Commissary General, in order to Supply the five
... nd under the direction of this State.

... form y'r Excellency that the Said £5000 is laid

out on Rum, Sugar, Coffee & Chocolate at Boston, Part of which is arrived at Fish-Kill Landing, & the remaining Part Soon Expected; finding it Imposible to procure Teams at Boston to forward the Stores without promising to Load them back with flour, I was oblidged to Engage to Load them or otherwise Pay them 2s. 6d. Lfl. mony p mile from Fish Kills to Boston which is upwards of 200 Miles.

My request, therefore, is that y'r Excellency would be pleased to Grant Permission for ninety Barrels of flour to be Exported from here to Boston in order to Load the Teams Back which will Safe the State near One Thousand Dollars the number of Teams Employd for the State will be Nine which if not Loaded back will amount to 25 Lf. M'y each. Remain Y'r Excellency's Mo. Obd. Serv't

David Currie.

[To Gov. George Clinton.]

[No. 1641.]

Colonel Peter Van Ness Recommends Captain Smith Commanding a Company of Rangers.

Claverack August 10th 1778.

Sir, Capt'n John Smith, Bearer hereof will make Returns to your Excellencey of the Company of Rangers under his Command, which Consist of about 20 men which will Appear by the Inlistment he will shew to your Excellencey; he Informs me that If wee will allow £10 as a farther Bounty to be paid to Each abel Bodied men to Be Raised as well as to those already Raised, he Can Soon Raise an additional Number of 10 men more which if your Excellencey Should Approve of wee will endeavor to accomplish. Capt'n Smith will Inform your Excellencey of what Service he has performed Since Enterd; your Excellencey will also be pleased to

Cuntry is ... Directions In what manner his
are Struck ... provisions. I am, Sir, with high
Soon; th... most Obedient & Most Hum'e Servant
Stroke ... Peter Van Ness.
Surrende... ...nton, Espr.
of my ...
notice ...
W. N. ...

[No. 1642.]

...s for the Payment of Clamorous Claims.

White Plains 10th August 1778.

... Excell'y, There is several sums due the Peo-
... and its vicinity, for Beef purchased in Oct'r
Sir, ... Public; am informed that some of the acc'ts
Thomps... ...ed to the Commissary Genl., who informed he
to the ... ...em before Mr. Tappen (who was Commiss'y of
be Otte... ... in his Returns. As the people have laid long out
the Bea... ...y, and are very clamorous, I beg that your Excel-
Cum to ... ...der Mr. Tappen to have the needfull forwarded, with-
Y'r Hu... ...me, if not allready done; as I would gladly have that
[W. N ... settled to prevent clamorous applications to me in
To Mr ... am with the utmost Esteem Your Excell'ys most
T... Hum'e Serv't

Robt. Boyd, Jun'r.

... y, Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 1643.]

... Clinton Regrets that General Gates Has Not Moved Against the Indians.

S...

Poughkeepsie 10th Aug't 1778.

I was honored with the Receipt of your Letter of the 21st
Plains where I had been for some Days on a visit
and did not return from thence till Saturday

Night. I was yesterday about preparing an answer to your Letter in which I meant to request your attend ' at Congress when Genl. Schuyler arrived & gave me the Disagreeable acc't of your ill State of Health which prevents my saying a word on that Subject.

I had little Reason to expect from the vague & general Charge exhibited ag't Genl. Schuyler that he will speedily be favored with a Trial if he shoud not, he means to proceed to Congress & will of Course relieve Mr. Duer who expresses great Desire for an Opportunity of paying some attention to his private affairs.

It is to be regretted that the Opperations which was intended by Congress ag't the Indians have hitherto been so utterly neglected by the command'g Officer of the Northern Department, especially as the Season is now too far advanced to prosecute an Expedition ag't them of any considerable Consequence with Probability of Success. When on the Recovery of your Health which ardently wish I have the Pleasure of seeing you I will explain the Reasons which in my Oppinion influenced Genl. Gates's Conduct. Believe me they were not those mentioned in your Letter. Till then I must also defer answering that Part of your Letter which Treats of the Managem't of Indians Affairs. I am D'r Sir with best Respects to Mrs. Duane Your Most Obed. Serv't

G. C.

J. Duane, Esqr.

[No. 1644.]

Governor Clinton Notifies Timothy Pickering of the Appointment of Major Hatfield Commissary of Hides.

Poughkeepsie 11th Aug't 1778.

Sir, Agreable to your Letter of the 21st of July last I have appointed Major Moses Hatfield Commissary of Hides for the Main

Army within the State. Being utterly unaquainted with the Nature & Duties of this Office I have not ventured to give him any Instructions other than those contained in his Appointment a Copy of which is inclosed. I have the Honor to be with great Respect Sir Your Most Obed't Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

The Hon'ble Timothy Pickering, Esqr. President of the Board of War.

[No. 1645.]

NEW YORK AND VERMONT.

Choice of the Inhabitants in Several of the Towns and Reported by Committees.

Copies of Returns made by Committees of sundry Towns in the County of Cumberland of the Number of Inhabitants in their Towns, & an Account of their Principles so far as respects a seperation from New York.

Those in Hinsdale that are for the State of New York 11th August 1778 are in number	39
For the State of Vermont	1
Neuters	2
Total	42

The Town of Guilford did not make a Return—but they reckon 53 Voters for New York—not so many for Vermont & a number of neuters.

In Halifax—For New York Aug't 11th 1778	63
For Vermont	36
Neuters	20
Total	119

The Number of Voters in Brattleborough who dissent from the pretended State of Vermont Aug't 11th 1778 165

Number who are for Vermont 1

Total 166

The Town of Marlborough sent a Representative to ye first Session of Assembly for Vermont, but have lately as a Town Voted not to intermeddle further in the Dispute until Congress shall declare their Sense upon the matter.

In Wilmington (or Draper) for New York Aug't 7th 1778 12

For Vermont 15

Neuters 8

Total 35

From Fulham no return is yet made But upon a Division of the Town ye major part were ag't Vermont ye chief of which are also against New York.

From New Fane No Return made, but ye Inhabitants being about equally divided have come to some agreement of Neutrality.

The Account & Number of the Inhabitants of the Town of Putney from the Age of 16 & upward taken the 10th of August 1778 as followeth

Men of Age that signed to continue under the State of New York in Number 69

The account of those of the Inhabitants that have signed & sworn to the State of Vermont is 26

The Remaining part of the Inhabitants of Age, & under Age, are 41

Total 136

Taken by us the Subscribers as Committee Men for ye said Town of Putney.

James Clay

Samuel Minott.

Westminster sent no Return—is about equally divided—the Number of Voters for New York about 40.

Rockingham Committee did not come or send.

In Springfield—For New York			21
For Vermont			19
Neuters			4
In Weathersfield—For N. York		11	
For Vermont		12	
Total		23	

No Towns higher up the River have chosen Committees for the Purpose of opposing the pretended State of Vermont.

[No. 1646.]

Association of Exempts at Claverack.

We, the subscribers being under the age of fifty five years, who have held civil or millitary Commissions And have Not ben reappointed to our respective Ranks of Office, or being between the ages of Fifty & fifty five Years, Do hereby, severally Engage That we will respectively on All occations Obey the orders of our respective Commanding officers, and will in Cases of Invasion or incurtions of the Enemy or Insurrections, March to repell the enemy or suppress Such Insurrections in the like Manner as the enroled Malitia are Compeled to do, So as we shall not, when Calld out in Detachments be anexed to any other Regt. Or Com-

pany or be under the immediate Command of any other than our own Officers. Witness our hands the day & year anexed to our Respective Names.

James Saxton, Jedediah Darrow, Ashbell Goff, Roger Kinney, Benjamin Chittenden, Jno. Devenport, Joel Pratt, Nehemiah Spencer, Nath'l Kinne, Samll. Foot, John Stedman, Ithamer Spencer, Eli Renolds, Wm. Powers Surgeon, Elias Delong, Elijah Smith Not fifty but is near Sighted & not enrolled in Militia; Thomas Brown, Solomon Hutchinson, Isaac Clark, Richard Holdride, Jno. Dean, Jno. Chittenden, Samll. Andruss, Epraim Widbeck, Jeremiah Chapman, James Spencer, Ambrus Vinson, Jonathan Dudley, Samll. Dean, Edward Cadman, Mathew Scott.

We the Subscribers being a Majority of the Company of Associated Exempts enroled On the other part of this sheet of paper do hereby recommend to the Honorable the Council of Appointment

Roger Kinne, to be Captain; Benj'm Chittenden to be first Lieutenant; Nehemiah Spencer to be second Lieutenant; and Samll. Dean to be Ensign of the said Company. Witness our hands this 12 day of August A. D. 1778.

Edward Cadman, Mathew Scott, James Saxton, Jedediah Darrow, Jonathan Devenport, Samll. Foot, John Stedman, Joel Pratt, Nathaniel Kinne, Ithemer Spencer, Eli Renolds, Thomas Brown, Solomon Hutchenson, Isaac Clark, Richard Holdridge, Jno. Dean, Jno. Chittenden, Samll. Andruss, Epraim Woodbeck, Jedediah Chapman, Ambros Vinson, Jno. Dudly, Wm. Powers

Taken by us the Su[illegible] [illegible]47.]

Town of Putney. [illegible] *a Detachment th[illegible] [illegible] Country.*

[illegible]ental Orders A[illegible]

Westminster sent [illegible] [illegible]mmand the Detach[illegible]

Number of Voters fo[illegible] [illegible] cautious that the M[illegible]

Rockingham Con[illegible] [illegible] the Circumstances [illegible]

In Springfield— [illegible] with such precaution [illegible]

[illegible] their Men pay particular [illegible]

In Weathersfie[illegible] [illegible]paconck and Down the River [illegible]

[illegible]ddaghs live; you will apprehe[illegible]

[illegible] have taken an active part agains[illegible]

[illegible] especially those who have commit[illegible]

No Towns [illegible] western frontiers, and treat them as E[illegible]

Purpose of [illegible] not distressing the Women and Children [illegible]

[illegible] or means of subsistance; you will be ex[illegible]

[illegible] hurt our friends (if any there be) and make

[illegible] who are our Friends & who our Enemies; you

[illegible] John Middagh, Stephen Middagh, Hendrick

[illegible] Nathan Parks, and all others who have lately

[illegible] at Lagewack, or any other part of the

[illegible] Enemies. Our Friends you will give all the

[illegible] bringing them of with their Effects, if they

[illegible] will have Mr. Buyker & Avery with you as

[illegible] give you better information to dis-

[illegible] Friends & Enemies than I Can. George Barn-

[illegible] and bring down and all others by whom

[illegible] our Friends, being found.

John Cantine, Colo.

[illegible]

[No. 1648.]

Clinton Willing to Exchange Tories for Captured Americans.

Poughkeepsie 12th Aug't 1778.

Gent'n, In Order to obtain the Releasment of several of our Freinds now in the Provost in New York, I have determined to detain and confine of the Persons who have appeared before you and refused to take the Test Oath for the purpose of Exchange the following vizt: James Ellis, Alexander White, James Dole & John Cumming, and you will forthwith order them into close Custody accordingly. I shall also endeavor to have Mr. Henry Cuyler exchanged for some Freind now in the Power of the Enemy; you will, therefore, notwithstanding any Directions to you respecting him in the Letter from the Commissioners at this Place of yesterday immediately have him closely confined. Mr. Peter Van Schaack is also intended for Exchange & will be permitted to go to New York on his Parole to sollicit it to return in a limitted Time if he cannot procure it. You may mention this to the other Persons intended for Exchange, that they may write to their Freinds in New York to interest themselves in their Behalf, as it is probable they will continue in rigorous Confinement til their Exchange is effected. I am your Most Obed't Serv't

G. Clinton.

The Gent. Commiss'rs for detect'g & defeat'g Conspiracies, Albany.

[No. 1649.]

Association of Exempts in Kings District, Albany County.

We, the subscribers, being under the age of fifty five years, Who have held Civil or Military Commissions and have Not ben Reappointed to our Respective ranks of office, Or being between

Colonel Cantine's Instruct
Into

The Officers that are
Papaconck, will be pa
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tion will admit of
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upon said R
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hereby severally engage th
us obey the orders of our
will in Case of Invasion
surrection, March to repell th
rection In the like manner as th
do, so as we shall not whe
e annexed to any Other Regment
mediate Command of any other tha

12th Day of August in the year 1778.

ackson, Simeon Doty, Rodrick Beebe.
his
athaniel X Marshel; Jno. Waterman, Jacob
mark

ough, Samll. Bailey, Willi'm Renolds, Eph

Peake, Grickson Frisby, Elisha Pratt, Asaph
Chapman, John Pardy, Abraham Mudge Jun'r.

Sara Allen, Joseph Wood, Richard Crego, Sam.

Semester, Lem'el Cleaveland, Asahel Jaguee.
Abraham Hendrick, Abr'm Mudg.

---

subscribers being a Majority of the Company Of as
Exempts cured on the Other part of this sheet of paper
amend to the Honorable the Council of appoint

be Captain: Ebenezar Benjamins, to be
Pratt, to be second Lieutenand; and

[illegible]nolds, to be Ensign of the said Company. Witness [illegible]s this 12th day of August in the Year 1778.

[illegible]el Jackson, Asa Doty, Simeon Doty, Rodrick Beebe, his his Nathaniel X Marshel, Jno. Waterman, Jacob X Sliter, Jonathan mark mark Hough, Samll. Bailey, Ephraim Lord, Asaph Putnam, Samuel his Chapman, John Pardy, Abraham Mudge, jun., Josiah X Beman, mark Ezra Allen, Joseph Wood, Samll. Wheeler, John Semister, Valentine Barber, Lem'el Cleaveland, Asahel Jauee, Daniel Peake, James Savage, Abr'm Mudg, Abr'm Hendrick.

[Copy.]

We the Subscribers being a Majority of the Company of associated Exempts enroled on the Other part of this sheet of paper Do Hereby Recommend to the Honorable the Council of Appointment:

Grixon Frisby, to be Captain; Ebenezer Benjamins, to be first Lieutenant; Elisha Pratt, Jun., to be Second Lieutenant; and Wm. Raynolds to be Ensign; Witness our Hands this 12th day of August 1778.

Asael Jaguee, Daniel Peek, Abraham Mudge, James Savage, Abr'm Hendricks, Micael Jackson, Asey Dotey, Simeon Dotey, Rhoderick Beebe, Nathaniel Mashal, John Waterman, Jacob Slowter, Jno. Hough, Samll. Bailey, Epraim Lord, Asaph Putman, Samll. Chapman, Jno. Pardy, Abr'm Mudge, Jun., Joseph Beeman, Ezra Allen, Joseph Wood, Samll. Wheelor, John Simester, Lemuel Cleveland.

We the Subscribers being under the age of fifty five yeares who have Held Civil or Military Commissions and Have Not ben Reappointed to our Respective Ranks of Office, or being between The age of fifty & fifty five yeares, do hereby Severally Engage That we will respectively on all Occations Obey the Orders of Our Respective Commanding Officers, and will, in Case of Invation Or Incurtions of the Enemy or Insurrections, March to Expell the Enemy or Supress such Insurrections in the Like Manner As the Enroled Militia are Compeled to do, so as we shall not When Call'd out in Detachments, be annexed to any Other Regt. Or Company or be under the Immediate Command of any other Than our own Officers.

Witness our hands this 12th Day of August in the year 1778.

Rhoderick Beebe, Ezra Alen, Joseph Wood, Richard Crego, Samll. Wheelor, John Simester, Lemuel Claveland, Asel Jaguee, Daniel Peek, Grixon Frisby, Elisha Pratt, Jun'r, James Savage, Abra'm Mudge, Jun'r, Abraham Mudge, Asa Dotey, Ebenezer Benjamins, Nathaniel Mashell, John Waterman, Jacob Slowter, Jonathan Hough, Samll. Bailey, Wm. Reynolds, Ephraim Lord, Asaph Putnam, Samll. Chapman, John Pardy, Ab'm Hendrick, Joseph Beman.

[No. 1650.]

COLONEL BUTLER ACTS WITH ENERGY.

Sends Governor Clinton a Report of His Scouting Party and of the Deaths of Service and Smith, the Tories.

May it please your Excellency, I received Genl. Stark's Orders to remove from Albany to this place, where I have now been two Weeks and thought it my duty to inform your Excellency of the different Occurances that has in that time transpired.

On my Arrival here I found three Forts erected by the Inhabitants for their Protection within 4 Miles of each other. I took

Post at one I thought most liable to be Attacked & immediately sent out a Subaltern with a small Scout to reconnoitre the Country, & to make what discoveries he cou'd of the Enemy. He proceeded about 25 Miles to one Services, a Noted Villain who had Constantly supply'd the Enemy with Necessaries. Service luckily was at Home & upon his refusing to Surrender, & making some resistance, one of the Party Shot him. They also Brought in 4 Prisoners.

Before the return of the Scout I received intelligence from Genl. Stark of one Smith who had raised a Number of Tories and was Marching to Join the Enemy. I immediately detached Capt. Long, of the Rifle Choir with a party to intercept their March. Capt. Long fell in with them, Kill'd Smith & Brought in his Scalp, Brought in one Prisoner & it is thought Wounded a Number. Only one of Capt. Long's party was Wounded. A Creek unluckily being between the Partys when they Engaged prevented Capt. Long from Advancing & gave the rest an Oppertunity to escape.

With the Prisoners taken by the first party, there was some letters from Smith to Butler & Brandt, informing them that he wou'd meet them at Service's on Sunday following with a Number of Torys who he had engaged. I also had intelligence that the intention of the Enemy was to March in a Body to Service's & there divide one party to Attack Cherry Valley & the other this place.

In Consequence of this Intelligence I detached Major Church with 120 Men to a Canoe place about 5 Miles Beyond Service's (which they must Attempt landing at) to lay in Ambuscade & prevent their landing.

But I imagine their supplies of Provisions being cut off by their loss of Service & their Reinforcement by the defeat of Smith prevented their Coming. The Major then drove off all the Cattle in

that Neighbourhood as their principal supplies was from that Quarter.

Except in these Instances I have been Obliged to Act totally on the Defensive; the little dependence that can be put in the few militia that do turn out, the disaffection of most of the Inhabitants to us, the distance and Wilderness of Country that we have to pass thro to the Enemy without the Necessaries for such an Expedition, makes it very difficult in my present situation to Act otherwise. But have presented a Plan to Genl. Stark & dayly expect an Answer which I will immediately communicate to your Excellency.

Colonel Alden's Regiment with some Militia are at Cherry Valley.

Since my coming here numbers of the disaffected People begin to have a proper sense of their Error and are Hourly coming in Begging Protection and are desireous of taking the Oath of Fidelity to the States.

The Accounts of the Enemy are exceeding Various But from the last intelligence that I have yet been able to get, they are about 1500 in Number at Unindilla about 80 or 90 Miles distance from this place. In a few days I expect certain intelligence which I will inform your Excellency of.

With an Addition which I have erected to the Fort & two pieces of Artillery mounted in it, I shall be able to make a good defence shou'd they Attack me. I am with due respect Y'r Excellency's most Obdt. Serv't

Wm. Butler.

Schohara Aug't 13th 1778.

N. B. I have wrote to his Excellency Genl. Washington informing him of my situation &c. of the same date.

His Excellency, Gov'r Clinton.

[No. 1651.]

Colonel Newkerk Reports the Result of a Scout Near the Delaware.

Pienpack August the 14th 1778.

Dear Coll. This Morning Mr. Tylar Came to See me after his Return from Coschecton Last Night and Brings the following acc't.

Last Monday in the afternoon Mr. Tylar Set out from Lieut. Decker's with 37 men in Order to Go up to Coschecton and on their march at the mouth of Lagawack, they met with a Company of the Standing forces which Came from Coll. Stroud's, and a Part of the Penselvenia & Jersy Militia, which in the whole amounted to 230 men, and So marched up to Coschecton. And Mr. Tylar was on the advance Guard with his Party and took One Barkar Prisner, and Examined him Strictly who Said that there was no Enemy near. But Mr. Tylar Still advanced about Two miles and he being on the flank Guard, Espyed a Party of Indians Coming Down, Upon which he and his men Sqated and let them Pass to the main Body, and then went Down and lay in Ambush with an Intent to Cut of their Retreat, but they were Soon Discovered by a Party that was in the Rear, who fired on them; Upon which they Retreated, But Discovering a Party on the mountain they took to the River, and the men in Ambush Fired on them and made Some of them fall.

They took Two Prisnors more who Said that the Party which was a Comeing Down were Intended for Minisink. Likewise the Two Prisnors, Told Mr. Tylar that there was Thirty Indians and Five white men in the Party they met and another Party a Coming Down of a hundred. But One of the Prisnors told the Commander of the Standing forces that Butler* was a Comeing Down with his army Upon which he Ordered his men to march back.

*Walter Butler, the Tory.

And after they marched, Capt'n Van Atten of Penselvenia and Capt'n Tylar with a few men advanced a mile further and killed an Indian and brought of from the Enemy Some Plunder.

In the whole they took Three white men Prisoners and killed One, Likewise killed and wounded four Indians. From your Friend & Hum'le Serv't

Jacob Newkerk.

P. S. While I was Up to you, Coll. Woodhull Sent & Called away his men (though he had but One man On the Ground) in Order to apprehend a Party of Robbers that has Plundered Several houses there. And Says he will Send his men when they are taken which I think does not Sute us at Present.

To Coll. John Cantine.

[No. 1652.]

THE WONDERFUL TALE OF TWO CULPRITS.

Disposition of Colonel Cantine's Troops—Payrolls Must be Made Out Monthly.

Hunk Aug't ye 11th 1778.

Sir, I have Not Been able to Comply With your orders in Respect to appoint a Subaltern to provide and Issue Provisions to the troops as None of them Where Willing to Ingage in that Service. I, therefore, have Been oblidged to appoint Capt. Andries Bevier for that porpose. I Have also at the unanimus Request of the Inhabitants of Lurienkill, Naponagh, Warwasinck & the Southeren part of Rochester, Changed my post from Leckawack to this place finding it much more Convenient for keeping out Scouts and patroling parties, as the Woods on Both Sides of Lackawack ar Exceeding Rof So that it is Impossible to keep out Scouts at any Distance there.

By the Last Returns of Coll. Newkark of the Orange County

men at Peenpack and Minisinck, their Where about Ninety men (that is), Eleven from Coll. Woodhul's, fifty nine of Coll. Heathorn's, tweenty of Coll. Tusten's; the men from Ulster County are posted, 40 at Memmacotting, 12 at Lurienkill, 130 at Hunck, 80 at Great Shandaken, and at Little Shandaken the Whole of Coll. Sneyder's Regim't Which Returns I have as yet Not had. The Whole Will amount to about 400, a Number Quit Suffitient, I Believe, to Defend the Different posts at present where the proportions But Equal out of the Different Regim'ts.

This moment I am Informed By Coll. Newkark that Several of the Orange County men are on their Way to Peenpack & Minisinck. I Have Sent Detatchments from the Different posts to the Delaware, With orders to act against those Who have tacken an active part against us, as Enemys, Leaveing other Unmolested, Exceeping those In Whose possession the goods robbed from the Inhabitant of the fruntiers Should Be found.

George Andries and Jacob Oosterhout the two men that Where Lately tacken prisoners at Leckawack have made their Escape. Thay Where on there Way to Niagara and Within tweenty miles of that place under the Care of a Mowhack Chief (Who Commanded the party that Where at Leckawack), and two other Indians; Oosterhout, a Weakly man, Was Not able to march as fast as the Indians. They Where Resolved the Next Day to kill him and take his Scalp. Andries Informing Oosterhout of their Design and askt him if he Could Do Something for him Self; Oosterhout Said he Could Not. Andries then advised him to Lye Still. When thay Went to Sleep Andries as usual Was put Between the two young Indians, the Capt., or Chief With two Squaws on the other Side of the fire. When Andries found that thay Where asleep he got the ax Which he had prepared for that purpose and

With it Laid his two Bedfellows much Sounder asleep then they Where Before. When geting across the fire in order to Let the Capt. Shear the same fate, he Started awake But Andries Handling his ax So Well that the third Blow Laid him asleep also; the Squaws made their Escape. Andries Came in With Oosterhout at this place, the Nineteenth Day after he had performed this Exploit, with Near the Vallue of one hundred pounds Worth of plunder on his Back; had When they Set out on their Jorney 2 Quarts of Sinnemon and 5 young Ducks. He Can give But Little Information of the Enemy. By the Best account I Have there is But few Near our Quarter.

Your Excellency Will Readely Conceive that the making of monthly pay abstracts for this Regim't Will Be attended With many Defficulties, When you Consider that the monthly Detatchment of the Different Regim't of which this is Composed, Do Commence at Different Days. I, therefore, Whould Be glad to Draw a Sum of money in order to pay of the Different Companies as their times Exspire, makeing an abstract of the Whole at the time When I Shall Be Discharged, and then account for the Sum Drawn. If your Excellency Should approve of this, you Will please to Send an order or orders By the Bearer hereof, on the treasurer for Such a Sum or Sums as you Shall Judge Nessesary as Well in favour of the Commissary as for paying the troops—and you Will greatly oblidge Your Most Obedient Hum. Ser't

John Cantine.

His Excellency, George Clinton.

Poughkeepsie 14th Aug't 1778.

Dear Sir, I am favoured with your Letter of the 11th Instant. I can have no Objections to your changing your Station from

Lackwack to Hunk provided it is most conducive to the Safety of the Frontier Inhabitants which is the principal Object I have in View, tho my own Judgment woud lead me to a Post still farther West than Lacquwack, as most likely to Effect it, yet for want of a proper Knowledge of the Country I may be mistaken & must, therefore, submit entirely to your Judgment assisted by the Sentiments of the Inhabitants concerned. I am sorry to find that you cant find among your Subalterns one who is willing to serve as Commissary to your Detachment as the Appointment of another Person must naturally increase Expence. Add to this I have certain Objections arising from Reports made to me of Capt. Bevier that I woud wish to have obviated before I give my consent to commit that Business to his Management. I have been informed that on the Desolation of Lackewack he took no Pains to raly his Company to prevent that Catastrophy or oppose the Progress of the Enemy & that instead of exerting himself as a good Officer, he discouraged the Inhabitants by falsely giving out that on his Application to me in the Spring relative to the Affairs of the Frontiers I had refused to afford them relief & insulted him. Tho on his Application you may remember my Orders to you in May last, to keep out scouting Parties were founded, and my subsequent Orders fully evince my close Attention to that Object which I always esteemed Important. This Conduct of his, if true, is unbecoming the good Officer or the Honest Man & forbids my having any Connection with him if it can consistently be avoided.

On perusing the Law, which grants the money for pay'g & subsist'g the militia called into Service, I find that I cannot consistently issue any money for the Purpose until the Service is performed & the proper Pay Rolls or acc'ts rendered; in which

Case on the acc'ts being audited it has been my practice to issue an Order thereon under the privy Seal to the Treasurer for paym't. You must, therefore, for the sake of regularity & to prevent Confusion submit to the Inconvenience of having your Payrolls & acc'ts made out for each month. If an advance of Cash for the purpose of purchasing Provision should be absolutely necessary I woud much rather supply it out of my own Purse than go out of the common Course of Business or drawing Money from the Treasury.

I had rec'd the acc't of Anderson & Oosterhout's return, two Days ago, I wish their affidavits on the Subject may be accurately taken & transmitted to me without Delay. I am &c.

Geo: Clinton.

Colo. Cantine.

[No. 1653.]

Relative to Banking Between the United States and the State of New York.

Poughkeepsie 14th Aug't 1778.

Sir, I have received your Letter of the 24th July last and have transmitted a Copy of it to the Treasurer of this State for the Government of his Conduct with Respect to the Monies he may from Time to Time receive for the Purposes therein mentioned, as far as may be consistent with an Act of the Legislature of this State particularly pointing out his Duty a Copy of which is inclosed. I have the Honor to be with great Respect Your Most Obed't Serv't

G. C.

To John Gibson, Esqr. Auditor Genl.

[No. 1654.]

Andrew Stevenson's Willingness to Betray His King After He Had Betrayed the United States.

County Charlotte New Perth Aug't 14th 1778.

Sir, We Send you under Gaurd Andrew Stephenson, an Inhabitant of Skeansborough, who was in the begining of June last brought before us under the Charge of disafection and after Examination was ordered by this Board into the Interior Parts of this State being Previously allowed Eight days to Regulate his Domestic affairs.

About the 15th of June Instead of Complyeing with the orders of the Board, he Proceeded to Canida and has been so far as Quebeck where he Procured a Pass from Sir John Johnson to return to Montreal and there Obtaind a Pass from Brigadier General Powels to return to Skeansborough and bring his Famaly to Canida.

On his return to Skeansborough, he Imediately Came and deliver'd himself up to the Commissionrs here who have Examined him & Sent a Copy to the Commissioners in Albany & Requested them to Reexamine him & Send both Copys to Your Excellency if any Material Variation Should be in them.

The Extent of Country that the above Person has Passed over that is now in the Enemy's Posession and the Inteligent Relation which he gives of the Strength dispotision and Intention of the Enemy as well as the Breach of Convention at Saratoga, Induses us to hope that the Information will not only be acceptable to Your Excellency but of Importance to the Country.

His Voluntary Return & delivery of himself to this Board & offering to take the Oath of alleigence which was administer'd to him, together with many other Circumstances Induces us to

have favourable Thoughts of him, Espeticialy as his Relation of matters so much Coresponds with Information we have heretofore received from that Quarter. We also think him uncapable of that artfull disimulation that many Spies are Master of. We Should not have Sent him only on account of Directions in Your letter to Col. Webster Concerning the Breach of Convention made at Saratoga, and he is the only Person we have mett with, was able to give any Satisfieing account on that head—he has offerd to Enlist with Capt. Barns which we would have Encouraged him to do; had it not been to Complye with Your directions but we doubt not but he will Enlist on his Return if Your Excellency think Proper to dismiss him. We are Your Excellency Most Obt. & very Humble Serv'ts

Eben'r Clark Alexad. Smitt Alex'r Webster Commissioners.

To His Excellency, George Clinton, Esquire.

[No. 1655.]

The Albany Commissioners on Conspiracies Willing to Get Rid of White.

Albany 15th August 1778.

Sir, Alexander White's Confinement, in Consequence of your Excellency's Order is the Occasion of Mrs. White's Application to us for a Pass to Poughkeepsie to sollicit from your Excellency Permission to go into New York—we beg Leave to remark, that in our Opinion it will be the most effectual measure that Mr. White can adopt to obtain an Exchange for himself, as he is almost as obnoxious to his own Party as he is to us; all the Influence he can pretend to, we conceive must be through the Interest of his

ems to be a prudent and discreet woman. We
cies Most Hum'e Servants:
V Rensselaer, Hugh Mitchell, Isaac D. Fonda.
George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1656.]

Formed in the Western District of Claverack.

Claverack Aug. 15 1778.

the honor of transmitting to your Excellency
subscribed by the Exempts in the western part
of Claverack, within the Limits of the Eighth
litia, commanded by Coll: Robert Van Rensselaer,
an Election, by which I am elected Captain, Peter
t, Abraham Vosburgh Second Lieutenant & Law-
, Ensign.
number who have signed this association is not large,
ve, a great difficulty would arise, should we be an-
or formed with any neighbouring Exempts into one
on account of the remote distance, we are from each

ld your Excellency be inclined to form those Exempts into
any, I would be glad, that Comissions may issue to the
s, as soon as their appointments are compleated. I have
nor to be with the greatest respect, Your Excellency's most
mble Serv't

Corn's S. Muller.

ov. George Clinton.]

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the Subscribers Inhabitants of the Western part of the
ct of Claverack, in the County of Albany, Exempts from the
d Militia pursuant to a Law entitled "An Act for regulating
litia of the State of New York," Do hereby associate our

selves into a company, and will severally on all occasions obey the orders of our respective commanding officers, and will in all cases of Invasion, or Incursions of the Enemy, or Insurrections, march to repel the Enemy, or suppress such Insurrection, in like manner as the enrolled militia are compelled to do: So that we shall not when called out in Detachments be annexed to any other Regiment or company, or be under the immediate command of any other than our own officers. In Witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands this Twenty Eighth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy eight.

Cornelius S. Muller, John Ten Broeck, Stephen Hogeboom, Peter A. Fonda, Mathias Halenbeek, Garrit Hardieck, Johannis Holsapel, Peter Hogeboom, Jur., Jeremiah Delamater, Gabril Esselstyn, Laurence Conyne, Wm. Van Ness, Jur., Bar. V: Valkenburgh, John Bay, Samuel J. Ten Broeck, Johannis Kellar, Joh's Schrom, Hendrick Clopper, Richard Blamley, Johannes Shult, Lukes Widbeck, Philip Bartel, David Bomystill, Besjohn Loop, Dadus Coll, James Atwater, Peter Loop, David Genness, Abram Vosburgh, Jo'n Bingham, Jun., Casparus Conyne.

I do hereby certify that the persons whose names are Subscribed to the above association are exempts from the enrolled Militia out of the Eighth Regiment of the County of Albany under my command.

Robt. V'n Rensselaer.

Claverack Aug't 18th 1778.

The officers of the associated Company of Claverack Elected 29th day of June 1778 agreeable to a Clause of the Militia act passed 3d April 1778.

Names of the Electors, John Ten Brook, Jurry A. Smith, Jeremy Delamatter, Samuel Ten Brook, Peter Groat, Stephen Hogeboom, Willhelmus Philip, John Bingham, Jur., David Bonestee

Peter Philip, Peter Loop, Peter Van Valkenburg, Gabriel Esselstyne, Peter Fonda, Jacob Philip, Abram Vossburgh, David Genness, Ambrose Stalker.

Officers Elected by Majority of votes vizt. Cornelus S. Muller, Captain, Peter A. Fonda, first Lieutenant, Abram J. Vossburgh, Second Lieutenant, Laurance Conyne, Ensign.

[No. 1657.]

John B. Van Vorst, Ferry-keeper Below Schenectady.

We do hereby certify, that John Baptist Van Vorst, has kept a Ferry for some time past, a Cross the Mohawk River at his House about one Mile below the Town of Schenectady, and that a Ferry is Necessary at said place and he the said John Baptist Van Vorst is a proper person to keep the same.

Ab'm Wempel, Chris: Yates, Ab'm Swits, Mynd't M. Wemple, Maj'r, Hugh Mitchell, Justice, Abraham Fonda, Justus, Reyn'r Mynderse.

Schenectady August 15th 1778.

[No. 1658.]

William Bedlow Discovers Fort Constitution's Blue Barge.

Dear Sir, Yours by Major Keese I received yesterday. I had been the day before to Luptons to Inquire if he had a chair to Dispose of, as I wanted to procure one for my Journey to Hartford; to the best of my recolection he told me he had no kind of Carriage; however I shall goe there again this day to be better Satisfied, and if he has a Sulkey to dispose of I am sure to obtain it for your Excellency at a modirate rate.

I some days agoe saw in the possession of a man at Murderer's Creek, the Blew Barge which I had Built for the use of Fort Constitution, and made a demand of her as the Property of this State.

the man Told me he had purchased her from a person up the river who took her from the Enemy, & had been at some Expence to repair her; his Taken her from the Enemy must be false; he might have found her laying on shore, and I think entituled to no more than a gratuity for taken care of her; she is a Valuable boat at this Time in the River and the sails of my Boat that was lost will suit her. I should be glad to know if I can have her taken from the man & if a Warrent from a majistrate be Necessary.

Mrs. Bedlow & Miss Katy, Joyn me in best Respects to you, your Lady, Mrs. Tappan & Family & am Dear Sir with great respect Your most Obt. Humb'e Serv't

William Bedlow.

New Windsor Aug't 15th 1778.

His Excellency, George Clinton.

[No. 1659.]

Returns of Colonel Van Schaick's Regiment.

A Return of the Strength of the 1st New York Regiment Commanded by Goose Van Schaick Esqr. Colonel.

August 15th, 1778.	Officers.												Non Commission'd						
	Field			Commission'd				Staff											
	Colonel	Lieut Colonel	Major	Captains	1st Lieutenants	2d Lieutenants	Ensigns	Adjutant	Pay Master	Quarter Master	Surgeon	Mate	Serjeant Major	Qr. M Serjeant	Drum Major	Fife Major	Serjeants	Drums & Fifes	Rank & File
Total	1	1	1	6	7	7	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	29	14	29

One Suit of Cloathing wanted for each Noncommission'd Officer & Private besides Regimentals for the Officers Blue turned up with Red.

Camp White Plains August 15th 1778. I do Certify that the true Return of the Regiment under my Command.

G. V Schaick Coll.

Returns of men and clothing wanting in Colonel Cortlandt's regiment.

GENERAL RETURN OF THE SECOND NEW YORK BATTALION OF FOOT COMMANDED BY PHILIP CORTLANDT ESQR. COLO.

August 15th 1778.	Field and Commissioned Officers							Staff Officers						Non Commiss'd & Priv'ts				Nine Months Men	
	Colonel	Lt. Colonel	Major	Captains	1st Lieuts.	2d Lieuts.	Ensigns	Chaplain	Adjutant	Paymaster	Qr. Master	Surgeon	Mate	Serjeants	Drummers & Fifers	Rank & File	Total	Serjts. & D. Fife	Privates
Total	1	1	1	5	4	5	6	—	1	1	—	—	1	27	15	220	262	5	137

GENERAL RETURN OF CLOATHING WANTING TO COMPLETE THE MEN SPECIFIED IN THE ABOVE RETURN.

	Wanting for the soldiers Enlisted for 3 years & During War													Wanting for the 9 Months men					
	No. of Men	Coats	Waistcoats	Breeches	Overhalls	Shirts	Frocks	Hatts	Stocks	Stockings	Shoes	Blankets	Knapsacks	No. of Men	Blankets	Breeches	Shirts	Stockings	Shoes
Total	262	262	262	262	524	524	524	262	262	524	524	262	262	137	137	137	137	137	137

N. B. Field Commissioned Nor Staff Officers Included in Cloathing Return.
Serjt. Major Qr. M. Serjt. Included with Serjeants Drum & Fife Major Included in Cloatheing Return.
26 Suits of Regimentals for Officers Blew with white—Camp Aug't 15, 1778.

Philip Cortlandt,

[No. 1662.]

Returns of men and clothing in Colonel Henry B. Li

A GENERAL RETURN OF THE 4TH NEW YORK REGIMENT OF
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA COMMANDED BY COLO
INGSTON. CAMP WHITE PLAINS A

	Commissioned Officers							Staff Officers						Non Commissio Officers and Private					
	Colonel	Lieut. Colonel	Major	Captains	1st Lieutenants	2d Lieutenants	Ensigns	Chaplain	Pay Master	Adjutant	Quarter Master	Surgeon	Mate	Sergeants	Drum & Fifers	Rank & File	Total	Sergeants	Privates
Total	1	1	—	6	7	5	—	1	1	1	—	1	1	22	14	220	256	5	76

A GENERAL RETURN OF CLOATHINGS WANTING FOR THE NUMBER OF MEN ESPECIFIED IN THE ABOVE RETURN.

	Wanted for the Soldiers Enlisted for three years, or During war.													Wanted for the nine month men to be retained on their Pay.					
	No. of men	Coats	Waist-coats	Breechesses	Over-halls	Shoes	Stockings	Hatts	Stocks	Shirts	Hunting Shirts	Blankets	Knapsacks	No. of men	Blanketts	Breeches	Shirts	Shoes	Stockings
Total	256	256	256	256	256	512	256	256	256	512	256	256	256	81	81	81	81	81	81

N. B. The Officers are not Carried in the Return of Clothings, as I do not know if there is any for them in the Provincial store

I should be glad to have nothing send to this Regt unless the most part of the whole uniform be Compleated. P. R.

P. Regnier Lieut. Colonel

[No. 1661.]

Returns of clothing wanted in Colonel Dubois' regiment.

A RETURN OF CLOTHING GOOD AND WANTING IN THE NEW YORK REGIMENT COMMANDED BY COLONEL LEWIS DUBOIS, WHITE PLAINS 15th AUG'T 1778.

Commissioned & Staff								Non Commissioned and Privates
Colonel	Captains	Subalterns	Surgeon	Pay Master	Surgeon Mate	Adjutant	Total	
1	6	9	1	1	1	1	20	
Twenty Full Suits Wanting for the officers								335

Different species of clothing	Coats	Vest Coats	Breeches	Stockings	Shoes	Shurts	Hunting shurts	Over Halls	Hats	Stocks	Blankets
Good	288	288	288	—	9	529	—	136	288	288	288
Wanting	47	47	47	670	661	141	670	534	47	47	47
Total	335	335	335	670	670	670	670	670	335	335	335

LEWIS DUBOYS Colo. 355

[No. 1662.]

Returns of men and clothing in Colonel Henry B. Livingston's regiment.

A GENERAL RETURN OF THE 4TH NEW YORK REGIMENT OF FOOT IN THE SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA COMMANDED BY COLONEL HENRY B. LIVINGSTON. CAMP WHITE PLAINS AUGUST 15th 1778.

	Commissioned Officers							Staff Officers						Non Commissioned Officers and Privates.				Nine month men	
	Colonel	Lieut. Colonel	Major	Captains	1st Lieutenants	2d Lieutenants	Ensigns	Chaplain	Pay Master	Adjutant	Quarter Master	Surgeon	Mate	Sergeants	Drum & Fifers	Rank & File	Total	Sergeants	Privates
Total	1	1	—	6	7	5	—	1	1	1	—	1	1	22	14	220	256	5	76

A GENERAL RETURN OF CLOATHINGS WANTING FOR THE NUMBER OF MEN ESPECIFIED IN THE ABOVE RETURN.

	Wanted for the Soldiers Enlisted for three years, or During war.													Wanted for the nine month men to be retained on their Pay.					
	No. of men	Coats	Waist-coats	Breechesses	Over-halls	Shoes	Stockings	Hatts	Stocks	Shirts	Hunting Shirts	Blankets	Knapsacks	No. of men	Blanketts	Breeches	Shirts	Shoes	Stockings
Total	256	256	256	256	256	512	256	256	256	512	256	256	256	81	81	81	81	81	81

N. B. The Officers are not Carried in the Return of Clothings, as I do not know if there is any for them in the Provincial store

I should be glad to have nothing send to this Regt unless the most part of the whole uniform be Compleated. P. R.

P. Regnier Lieut. Colonel

[No. 1663.]

Letter Accompanying the Foregoing Returns.

Camp White Plains Aug't 15th 1778.

Sir, We herewith Send you Returns of Clothing wanting in our Respective Regiments, whereby you will be able to proportion Out the Same which if Ready we beg may be sent to Camp as we are much in want Especially the articles of Hats, Shoes, Stockings, Breeches and Shirts.

Capt. ———— is sent to forward on the Same who will wait on you for an order to have them Deliver'd. We beg leave to be with all Respect Your Excellency's Very Hum'e Serv't:

G. V. Schaick, Philip Cortlandt, Lewis Duboys, Pierre Regnier.

[No. 1664.]

GOVERNOR TO OUR DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

That $100,000 Advance from the National Government—The Differences Between New York and Vermont.

Poughkeepsie 16th Aug't 1778.

Gentlemen, Some Days since I was favored with your Letter of the 21st of July last by which I am informed you have obtained from Congress an advance of 100,000 Dollars in favor of this State. I am without any Instructions from the Legislature on this Subject but the Reasons you mention as having influenced you to this measure so fully evince it to be for the Interest of the State that in my Opinion they would have justified a much larger Demand. I have not, therefore, the least Doubt that it will meet with the approbation of your Constituents. It will rest with you Gentlemen to forward the Cash and the earlier it may be received [illegible] of this State, without occasioning any extraor- [illegible]arding it, the better.

of the Said Company of Exampts and Issue the Commissions to them accordingly. I Remain with Esteem Sir your most obedient humble Serv't

Tuenes Vroman.

August 16th Day 1778.

Agreeable to an act of the Militia Law Pased April 3d 1778 in the State of New York for the Better Regolateing of the Militia in Schoary in the County of Albany. Being a Number of thirty men or more in the Regt. of Coll. Peter Vrooman, Exempts & takeing the Benefit of the acts assembled acordingly, and made Choice of those hereafter mentiond, Which Tuenes Vrooman Peter Snyder Martines Vrooman Jacob Lawer.

Monday August 16th 1778.

The Choice Was made By a Major. of votes. Officers Names: Tuenes Vrooman, Capt., Peter Snyder, 1 Leit., Martines Vrooman, 2d Leit. Jacob Lawyer, Jur., Ens.

[No. 1666.]

More Tories Refuse to Take the Oath of Allegiance.

State of New York Ss,

To his Excellency George Clinton Esquire, Governor of the State of New York General and Commander in Chief of all the militia, and admiral of the navy of the same.

In pursuance of an act of the Legislature of this State Entitled an "Act more effectually "to prevent the mischiefs arising from the Influence and example of persons of equivocal "and Suspected Characters in this State," We do hereby notify your Excellency that Adam Carman, Samuel Mabbet and Agrippa Martin of Dutchess County and Walter Dubois of Ulster County, having Severally appeared before us & being by us tendered the Oath in the said act contained did respectively refuse the same, and that unless your Excellency Shall think proper to detain them or either of them for the purpose of exchanging them for any of the Subjects of this State in the power of the enemy, we shall cause them respectively to be removed to some place within the Enemy's lines.

Robt. Harpur Corn. E. Wynkoop Jr. Peter Cantine, Jur. Commissioners.

Poughkeepsie August 17th 1778.

[No. 1667.]

George Clinton's Handsome Certificate for the Services of Captain Machin.

I hereby Certify, that about the midle of July 1776 Capt. Machin of the Artilery, came to Fort Montgomery & by the Direction of

his Excellency, General Washington, & was imployed in laying out & erecting Works for the Defence of that Place & for securing the Pass to Anthony's Nose until towards the latter End of Aug't when Genl. James Clinton took the Command at that Post; that in December following, Capt. Machin was imployed in constructing Cheeveaux De Frize for obstructing the Navigation of Hudson's River opposite Polopen's Island* and that he continued in that Business sinking the same making the Necessary Preparations for fixing the Chain across the River at Fort Montgomery & occassionaly supperintending the Works at that Place until some Time in June 1777, when Genl. Putnam took the Command of the Army in the Neighbourhood of the North River & then by his Orders, Capt. Machin was imployed in constructing & making Booms to draw across the River in Front of the Chain till the Reduction of the Fort by the Enemy at which Time he was badly wounded. And I have Reason to believe that upon his Recovery he has been since statedly imployed to this Time in the Necessary Preparations for fixing a New Chain across the River, compleating one of the Booms the Cheveaux Defrize & raising the Lady Washington Galley which was sunk on the Enemy's Advance up the River. In Justice to Capt. Machin, I am bound to add that while he was under my Command, he discovered great Dilligence & Industry in forwarding the different Works committed to his Care & that in the Execution of them he experienced an uncommon Share of personal Labour & Fatigue being often necessarily exposed to work in the water in very Cold Weather.

[G. C.]

Given at Poughkeepsie this 17th Aug't 1778.

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*See Volume I, page 559, with foot notes on pages 559-560 and letter of General P. S. Michle as foot note on page 561.—STATE HISTORIAN.

[No. 1668.]

COLONEL HATHORN RESPONDS QUICKLY.

The Alarm Proves to be False—The Kidnapping of Isaac Martin and His Rescue by the Militia.

Warwick 17th August 1778.

Pursuant to the directions of the Militia Law I Transmit
he Coppy of a Letter I recieved by Express from Minisink
ay Last 12 o'Clock with my proceedings thereon.

Coppy.

Hathorn, This moment recieved intelligence from Capt.
hat the Enemy was discovered about 3 o'Clock in the after-
bout 9 Miles up the River from Lieut. Decker's and Mr.
as up at Coshecton with a party this Week in the whole
nsilvania and the Jersey about 250 Men and met a party
s and Tories on their way down here, and had a Skirmish
m and took three prisoners and Killed some, so that its
able they are a coming for revenge, and as I have but a
here I beg you will march with your Regiment imme-
reinforce us. from your friend & Servant

Jacob Newkirk.

August 14th 1778 10 o'Clock at Night.

st for Particulars.

ieving of the above Intelligence together with a number
accounts and other Circumstances Concuring I marched
f my Regiment on the morning of the 16th, within Two
isink. 3 o'Clock in the afternoon of the same day
ss on his way to inform the Militia that the Intelli-
y found'd, a Scout who had been sent out returned
em that there was no Signs of Indians to be found.

I take the liberty to communicate a peace of Intelligence which perhaps you have not heard of. On Friday Night last Isaac Martin, a Justice of the Peace, living about 10 Miles from me in Jersey, was taken out of his House by five or Six men; the Militia immediately aroused and Pushed themselves in their Front and placed Centinels in every pass of the Mountains where there was a probability of their passing. On the following night the Villians approached with him towards one of the Guards, who Challenged them, not being answered was prepareing to fire but the darkness of the Night Prevented, upon which the party fled into the Woods, which gave room for the prisoner to Escape; thus after being taken out of a thick settled Country and Conveyed about 30 Miles at or near Pumpton by the Vigilance of the Militia was Rescued. Martin say the fellows was strangers to him and Intire Strangers to the Country as they obliged him to Shew them the way the Nearest and most hidden through the Mountains to New York.

Martin has been a very active Man in the Business of his Country; is one of the Comis'rs of Sequestration for the County of Sussex. Its believed Col. Barton who while a Prisoner here declard he would take Martin to New York, Employed those Villians to Perpetrate his design which was nearly Effected.

A Circumstance Repeating their Usual and dirty measures, it may Serve to teach Individuals the duty they owe to the safety of their persons every measure is Pursueing to discover and take the Villians.

I have the Honour to be with the Greatest Respects Your Excellency's Obt. Servant

John Hathorn, Col.

Governor Clinton.

[No. 1669.]

John Sloss Turns State Evidence in the Matter of Two Robberies.

City of Albany Ss: The Examination of John Sloss, who being examined says; that he heard a Report that Robert Sloss had been enlisting men for the service of the British King, and being informed at Lambert Van Alstyne's where he lodged, that a party had been there while the examinant was from home, and supposing that the Party came to apprehend him, he went from thence across the River to Stephen Ducalon's; that Robert Sloss came there to him; that Stephen Ducalon brought them to a house four or five miles back in the woods; that they tarried about there about a week and were frequently at the House of one Johnston; that they returned to Stephen Ducalon's and then crossed the River to the widow Meesick's; that Robert Sloss, Roeloff Vanderkar, and a short thick man who said he was a Regular and a Cordwainer were with the Examinant at ——Skinkles; that a young man named Van Volkenburgh told him the Examinant that a person wanted him at Meesick's; that on coming there he found it was Stephen Ducalon who wanted to speak to him, that Stephen Ducalon desired him to come over the River to his House with Robert Sloss, and the other persons with him and he Stephen Ducalon would bring them where there was good Booty; that Stephen Ducalon appointed a particular night for them to come to his House; that at the Time appointed they went over the River and sent one or more of the Party to Stephen Ducalon's House who was not at Home; that they got provisions from Stephen Ducalon's House when they wanted; that Stephen Ducalon came to them in the woods in the Evening with Robert Young; that they there agreed to go and rob Mr. Van Schaack; that Ducalon was their Pilot; that Robert Sloss, John Morgan,* Robert Young, Stephen Ducalon, and he, the examinant, went to Mr. Van Schaack's about two or three miles from Stephen Ducalon's and robbed him; that among the Effects taken from the said Van Schaak was a Small Trunk containing hard money; that at the Time of committing this Robbery Stephen Ducalon stood Centinel at some distance from the House with a pistol, having declined to go into the House lest he shoud be known; that the money taken from Mr. Van Schak was divided in a Cordwainer's Shop at the East side of the River; that Stephen Ducalon was at the division of the money and received only eight of the Silver Dollars for his Share; that the Examinant and Robert Sloss went afterwards to Petrus Coles, where they met Cornelius Taylor with a party; that it was agreed to go and rob Henry Van Rensselaer; that some days after the said Cornelius Taylor and John Morgan, Robert Young, Archibald McCoy, Robert Sloss, James Noels, Adam Cole, and some others went to the House of the said Henry Van Rensselaer and robbed him; that part of the Goods of Henry Van Rensselaer were carried to Peter Coles, and part of Mr. Van Schaack's Goods were hid in Meesick's Barn; that Cornelius Taylor some time before this Examinant was taken shewed him a Quantity of wrought plate hid in an old Stump in a very deep Hollow at a little distance from the House where his mother and the Family used to dwell; that the plate was wrapped up in Cloths; that the said Taylor also told him of two long Cloaks he had Concealed.

John Sloss.

Taken & Examined this 17th day of August 1778. Before me John M. Beeckman, Alderman.

[This document is endorsed as follows]:

Copy of the Examination of John Sloss relative to the Robbery of Arent V. Schaak by Ducalon & others.

N. B. This Examination of John Sloss was taken a Considerable Time before Nathaniel Morgan was apprehended. Morgan and Sloss have not had any Communication Since they were apprehended—Morgan being Confined in the Criminal Gaol and Sloss in the Fort at Albany.

[No. 1670.]

Myndert Viele Refuses to Take the Oath of Allegiance.

State of New York Ss,

To his Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the state of New York, General and Commander in Chief of all the militia and admiral of the Navy of the same.

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*See page 701 and documents 1861 and 1888, Volume IV.

In pursuance of an act of the Legislature of this State Entitled "An act more effectu-"ally to prevent the mischiefs arising from the Influence and Example of persons of "equivocal and Suspected Characters in the State." We do hereby notify your Excellency that Myndert Vielie having appeared before us and being by us tendered the Oath in the said act contained did refuse to take the same, and that unless your Excellency Shall think proper to detain him for the purpose of exchanging him for any of the subjects of this State in the power of the enemy, we shall cause him to be removed to some place within the Enemy's Lines.

Corn. E. Wynkoop, Jr. Robt. Harpur, Peter Cantine, Jur., Commissioners.
Poughkeepsie 17th August 1778.

[No. 1671.]

A TROUBLESOME PROPOSITION.

How to Handle Persons Who Have Returned to Our Allegiance, Having Originally Gone Over to the Enemy.

Fort Clinton Aug. 16 1778.

Sir, The bearer hereof John Wessells served as a Serjeant in my Regiment the Campaign '76. When the Regiment was disbanded in the winter it appears he went to York, & hath continued there untill about fourteen days ago.

By accident I mett with him in this Garrison, and as a Subject of the State I think it my duty to send him to your Excellency—especially as I have reason to be displeas'd with his behaviour. The familys who were banish'd by Governor Chittendon are here—civil discreet people. I really wish you woud give me some orders to sett them at Liberty. I have them at work just now but use them well. My most respectfull compliments to Mrs. Clinton, the old Lady & family & am with due regard D'r Sir your much oblidged and very Hble. serv't

W. Malcom.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

Poughkeepsie 18th Aug't 1778.

Dear Sir, I have receivd yours of the 16th Instant by John Wessels whom I immediately consigned to the Commissioners.

Numbers of the disafected Inhabitants of this State who in Times passt went over to the Enemy are daily returning. Suffering them to remain in the Country without taking any Notice of them gives great & in my Opinion just Cause of Disgust to our Friends. To punish them might discourage Desertions from the Enemy. The Com'rs have Authority to commit them to close Confinement but this woud charge us with heavy Expence & Trouble & answer no valuable End. I have had thoughts of consigning them to your Post for Three Months Fatiegue, not by Way of excusing them from Punishment for their passt Crimes if in future it shoud be judged Right to inflict any. This or a Close Goal is the only alternative—let them make their Election & if they work & behave well it will be some Evidence of their Penitence which they may avail themselves of with their Country when brought to Account. Will it not be strict Justice? They were influenced to desert to evade Militia Duty. The Militia have performed more than three Months Duty since their Desertion. Pray let me have your Oppinion on this Subject. Will you receive them? Will it be safe?

Tho it was a daring Piece of Insolence of the usurped Govement of Vermont to Attempt to banish the Subjects of this State and equally so in Genl. Starke to carry their Sentence into Execution, yet as I have addressed Genl. Washington on this Occassion & requested him to call Genl. Starke to Account for his Conduct & as his Excellency has wrote to Congress on the Subject I woud not wish to give any Order concerning them till an Answer is received. I wish you however to acquaint them what I have done in their Behalf. This will be handed you by the [illegible] who is appointed to take Charge of Mr. Saml. Bayard & [illegible] a second Cargo of banished Tories. He will shew the

Genl. Letters to me on the Subject. How many more we will have yet to forward is uncertain they multiply on our Hands. Yours Sincerely

G. C.

Colo. Malcom.

[No. 1672.]

THE RHODE ISLAND CAMPAIGN.

Failure of the Expedition Through Lack of Cooperation.

Harison's Precinct—Aug'st 17th 1778.

Sir, With some Difficulty we have at last procured a convenient House in this Neighbourhood and expect to open a Board tomorrow. This afternoon we shall confer with the Adjutant Genl. and settle a proper Plan of Proceedure.

By the last Accounts from Rhode Island Count D'Estang* had not returned to that place, which he left on Monday last to

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*In pursuance of the treaty that was concluded between the United States and France, as a result of the surrender of Burgoyne, Vice Admiral Charles Hector D'Estaing sailed from Toulon, France the 10th of April 1778, and early in July arrived in Delaware Bay with twelve ships of the line and four large frigates. An ardent admirer of Marie Antoinette, who from the first had been a warm friend of the Colonies in their struggle against England. D'Estaing had had a memorable career, and was equally distinguished whether as a soldier or a sailor.

At sixteen he was Colonel of his regiment, and at twenty-seven a Brigadier General. He saw service in India, but was made prisoner at Madras in 1759 by Clive. He broke his parole and entered the navy, where he obtained command of two ships and soon spread terror and consternation among the British merchantmen in the far east. He was finally captured, imprisoned at Portsmouth and exposed to unnecessarily harsh treatment on account of his broken parole. The ignominy and humiliation of which he was the victim created in his breast a hatred for the English which the war with the Colonies allowed full exercise. Through Marie Antoinette's friendship for him he was given command of the fleet destined for America. Having learned that Lord Howe had evacuated Philadelphia, and that the British shipping had left the Delaware, the French Admiral sent up the river a man of war which carried M. Gerard the French Minister Plenipotentiary to the United States. D'Estaing then proceeded with the balance of his fleet to Sandy Hook.

He fully expected to encounter the British fleet and destroy it, but on his approach the Englishmen retired to the upper bay. D'Estaing, in his letter to Congress reporting his operations on the coast, charges the pilot whom he took from the Delaware River, with deceiving him by assuring him that his squadron could pass Sandy Hook. "Circumstances required" wrote D'Estaing, "that I should reconnoiter the coast myself and determined me to go almost alone in a boat. By these means we discovered the communication of Shrewsbury River, the extreme difficulties of which cost me an officer, several sailors and a quantity of rowing boats."

Washington had already dispatched Lieutenant Colonel Laurens to the French Admiral, and on the 18th, forwarded Colonel Hamilton, "another of my aides with the best pilots

persue Lord Howe's Fleet upon its Appearance off the Harbour. Indeed nothing has since been heard of either Fleet and important Intelligence respecting them is expected every Moment. Genl. Sullivan has made good a Landing on the Island and is waiting for the Return of the French Fleet before he will operate further. The Count did not leave any of his Troops at Rhode Island. Mr. Dana one of the Massachusets Delegates was here yesterday on his way from Congress and informed me that Ten of the States have confederated, Mariland Jersey and the Delaware are the only States which have not confederated. Every thing quiet here. This is all the Intelligence worth communicating. I am most respectfully Your Excellency's most obed't Serv't

Egb't Benson.

P. S. Genl. Schuyler is still in the Neighbourhood here.

[To Gov. George Clinton.]

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and the most skillful masters of ships I could procure." Laurens had nearly been drowned in crossing the surf to communicate with D'Estaing, who wrote of Laurens: "his patriotism and his courage made him brave the most imposing dangers of the sea with the same firmness as the fire of the enemy. * * * The pilots procured by Colonels Laurens and Hamilton destroyed all illusion. These experienced persons unanimously declared that it was impossible to carry us in. I offered in vain a reward of 50,000 crowns to anyone who would promise success. All refused, and the particular soundings which I caused to be taken myself, too well demonstrated that they were right."

Washington then suggested that D'Estaing should proceed to Rhode Island and cooperate with General Sullivan. When the French Admiral appeared off Point Judith, Sullivan's army was not prepared to attack the British forces and a delay of several days was necessary. After a conference between the British and American commanders, it was decided that the attacking force should land near the northern point of Rhode Island, August 10th. Four thousand French troops were to cooperate with Sullivan's command. D'Estaing successfully passed through the middle channel two days before, the heavy cannonading from the land in no way interfering with his purpose. This movement forced the British to evacuate the northern parts of the Island and to retire within their breastworks at Newport.

The next day Lord Howe's fleet appeared off Point Judith. On the morning of the 10th, under a northeast wind, Count D'Estaing suddenly started seawards with the intention of offering battle to the English Admiral. The following night, a terrific gale arose, scattered the ships, and inflicted severe damage upon several of them. The American troops under Generals Sullivan, Greene, and Lafayette, in the meantime had crossed over to Rhode Island only to discover that their French allies had gone to sea. But understanding that D'Estaing would shortly return, they took up their position two miles distant from the enemy's lines, began the construction of earthworks, mounted their guns, and proceeded to pay their compliments to the British.

It was not until the 20th that D'Estaing returned. Considerable friction had been engendered between the French and American officers, owing to the French Admiral's course. Greene and Lafayette used all their powers of persuasion to induce D'Estaing to

Poughkeepsie 18th Aug't 1778.

D'r Sir, Being engaged with the Council of Appointment I have only a Moment to thank you for your Letter of yesterday and for the Attention you have paid to public Business in procuring an Officer to Attend at Fishkill to take Charge of the Second Cargo of Tories. I am extreamly anxious for the Safety of Count D'Estaing's Fleet as I am not without my Fears that he will have to encounter a greater Force than he expected to meet under Lord Howe. Pray continue to give me the earliest intelligence of every Occurence worth communicating. Present my best Respects to the Genl. & Gentlemen of his Familly & believe me to be with great Regard Your most Obed't Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

We have nothing new in this Quarter but what you will find in the inclosed Paper.

[To Egbert Benson.]

[No. 1673.]

William Duer in a Quandary.

Dear sir, I have had for some Time past a Considerable Sum of the Public money in my Hands, which the Delegates of the State of New York obtain'd from Congress on the Principle as stated to your Excellency in a Late Letter from Mr. Morris and myself.

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attack the enemy. But a council of war, held aboard the flagship, voted the proposition down. D'Estaing to the mortification and chagrin of the more aggressive American officers, sailed for Boston Harbor to make repairs. Fearing the return of Howe's fleet, and a general reinforcement of the British army, and realizing the hopelessness of maintaining his siege, Sullivan under cover of darkness, on August 28th, withdrew to the north part of the Island. The British promptly followed him from Quaker Hill and attacked Sullivan on Butts Hill. The Americans lost 211 men; the British loss was heavier.

The following day, Sullivan retreated from Rhode Island to Tiverton, and the British fleet, with the army of Sir Henry Clinton arrived at Newport—this information having been forwarded to Sullivan by Washington from his headquarters at White Plains under date of August 28.—STATE HISTORIAN.

When I first received it, my Determination was to proceed to the State of New York within a few Days—but the Foreign affairs becoming interesting from the arrival of the French Minister; and the Necessity of getting a Decision of Congress upon the Conduct of the State of Vermont, and their late Proscription growing every day more Urgent—I have been induced to stay since Mr. Lewis arrival from Baltimore—in hopes of finishing a Business which in my Judgment strikes at our very Existence as a State. I have endeavoured in vain to get several trusty Persons to take the Charge of this money in order to deliver it to you for the Purpose of its being paid into the Treasury of our State—but one or two out of that Number, who might with some Inconvenience to themselves have carried at least Part of it did not chuse to run the Risque. I have endeavor'd to prevail on Mr. Dennig to become the Bearer of it but on finding disagreable to him have been obliged to desist from my Request. As I have pass'd a Receipt in my own Name of this money, I am not willing to hazard it with a Person at my own Risque, Unless I should find a very trustworthy Character, who will consent to take the Trouble. I have, therefore, to request that your Excellency will be pleas'd to direct some Person, who may be depended upon, and who may be coming to Philadelphia, to call upon me for the money; and in case I should not be there to call on his Return to New York at Baskinridge in New Jersey, where I purpose staying some Days on my Return on a Visit to Lord Stirling's Family. Mr. Dennig being in a hurry to Set out, I am obliged to conclude myself with great Respect. & Esteem Your

[No. 1674.]

The Governor Calls Assessors and Collectors of Taxes to Account.

Poughkeepsie Aug't 18th 1778.

Gentlemen, My anxiety for the public welfare is very much increased by the unexpected Neglect of the Assessors to make the assessments without which the Supervisors cannot rate the Tax, nor the Collectors levy it. It is easy to conceive that a Tax for supplying the public Exigences of the State, is a matter of too much importance to be delayed; and it is as obvious that had the Country done their Duty as effectually as the Legislature have made provision, the whole Tax might before this Time have been deposited in the Treasury for public Use. From these Considerations I conceive it to be the indispensible Duty of my office to urge the Supervisors, Assessors & Collectors of the different parts of the State to the immediate Execution of their respective office as they would wish to escape the penalties of the Law and the displeasure of their Country so much injured by their inexcusable Delay. I am Gentlemen Your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

To the Supervisors, Assessors & Collectors of the County of....

[No. 1675.]

Margaret Childe Contradicts Her Slave and Appeals to Congress.

Philadelphia 18th Aug't 1778.

Gentlemen, I am constrained to trouble you on an affair that affects a distressed Widow, trusting in your goodness and humanity to excuse the freedom I have taken; imploring you to take the case of the distress'd into your consideration, and if in your power, to secure my property in such manner as to you may seem best.

lave belonging to me and brought up with
had for him, induced me to order, that after
uld be free. He, taking advantage of this,
rmy left this City, went off with them, and is
This misbehaviour of his in runing away
me alter my resolution, and should be glad to
some manner secured to my behoof. Think-
t you might be most likely to assist me in this
n the liberty to lay the matter before you,
that you will be pleased to render me all the
wer: you will thereby greatly relieve the dis-

herewith laid before your Honors, Copy of a
l servant, to Mr. Jones,* a gentleman he was
in this City; by which you will find that he
Freedom recorded, and refers to Mr. Anthony
his Mr. Benezet is one of the people called
led against keeping slaves; makes it his busi-
egroes in obtaining their freedom; and is the
out the instrument of writing which left said
y decease; which was sealed and put in my
n away I have destroyed the instrument of
Mr. Benezet cannot do any thing in the
Benezet took a minute of the Freedom in a
ps for that purpose; and did give my servant
same before his elopement; signing my name
onsent or knowledge.
ors will be good enough to do me all the justice
ower, and as my said servant (who calls him-

*See pages 610-611.

self Milford Smith) is in New York, you probably might suggest some plan whereby I might be secured; for which my prayers shall ever attend you, and am Gentlemen your obed't serv't

Margret Childe.

The Honorable The Members of Congress for the State of New York.

[No. 1676.]

Governor Clinton Advances Four Hundred Pounds to Colonel Malcom on Account.

Rochester 19 Aug't 1778.

Dear Sir, I Received yours of ye 14th Instant By Mr. Keatter. I whould Not have Changed my post from Laghawack to Hunk if It had Not Been at the Unanimus Request of the Inhabitants Concerned, Not But I Judge that Laghawack whould have answered the purpose as well as Hunk, (Except) that of Keeping out Scouting parties mentioned in my Last and the addistional Expence of getting up Supplys for the Regim't. I am Sorry that I have Been So Unhappy as to appoint Capt. Bevier for Commissary, hearing the objection you have against him, I Can assure you Nothing But Nessasity has Induced me to Brake through that part of your order; I Not being able to get a Subaltarn to Sarve in that Station, have Been oblidged to act as such my Self for Some time, But finding that it was Not In my power to Do Justice to the Regim't without one any Longer I, therefore, with Difficulty perswaded Bevier to Eccept, who has Suplyed me with Some Cattle. But Comeing Home the Evening Before I Received your Letter, and told me that If I Could get another to serve and Dismiss Him he would give in his trouble for what we had Received of him; on which I whent to Lieutanant Dirck Wesbrouck who whent In ye

Depue and who is Now Ingaged in that
Bevier's Conduct on the Dessolation of
Present Say Nothing, But as Capt. Bevier
gim't I Shall think it my Duty the first op-
Conduct in that Respect Examined into, for
Excellency with Not Being willing to Relief us
sulted him, I must, as an Honest man, Say, I Do
Ever to have heard it till Now. It was at the Re-
Pawling and my Self that he whent to you. At
we hapned to meet him at Rochester and their if I
ber, I Received your orders for keeping out Scouting
Cannot Say (from Capt. Bevier Conduct) I though him
ssfyed at his Return.

Little money I was able to advance was soon Expended in
plying the Regiment and Coll. Newkark makeing Applycation
me for money in favour of the men he had Imployed to provide
the party at Peenpack and Minisinck, till Such time as it
whould Be in the power of the Commisary to Supply them, and
that he Could Buy much Cheaper for Cash; and as your Excel-
lency may Remember of Signifying at the time of my appoint-
ment, at ye New Paltz, to give me an order on the treasurer for
that Purpose, I haveing made my promises, on the Exspectation
of Being Supplyed In that manner and therefore whould have
been glad to have Received the order; But as it whould take us
out of the Common Course of Business I Shall Endeavour to Do
without it.

The affidavits of Andries and Oosterhout I whould have Sent
with Mr. Keatter But No Justices Being in that Quarter and they
Not able to Hire, have Been oblidged to get Coll. Pawling and Mr.
Delamater to Come where they was, which has detained me till

Now; and was at that time Sending orders to the Different posts to Send Scouts to the Delaware, who are Returned with Intelligence that the Inhabitants there are Desired to trash their grain By Some of Butler's party, they Standing in great Need of it. They have Distroyed the Croop of John Birch who was gon the Day Before the guard arrived with grain to the Enemy. Middagh and Hendrick Bush Jur. where also gon. I Shall wait your Direction with Respect to the grain at Delaware, I whould Just Inform you that there are a few friend Left at Packatackan who give us Information. The guard have Brought of thirteen or fourteen Horses from Papaton, three families who were friend and five prisoners, who I have sent to Coll. Pawling for to Examin, and a few Cows the guard have also taken and Brought with them.

I am with great Esteem Dear Sir your most obedient Hum'e Ser't

John Cantine.

P. S. The Enclosed are two Letters one from Coll. Newkark & the other of Wm. Caldwell & Capt. Jacob, and the Affidavits of Anders and Osterhout.

His Excellency, George Clinton Esqr.

Poughkeepsie 19th Aug't 1778.

Dear Sir, I am this Moment favoured with your Letter of equal Date. If you are in immediate Want of Money to supply the Militia in actual Service under your Command with Provisions make Use of an Order which I now sent the Treasurer for four hundred Pounds in your Favour the am't of which I have directed him to charge to our Account.

I am of Oppinion it will be best to remove, if possible the Grain *and all* kind of Provision from the Settlements on Delaware in

Ulster County & if it cannot be effected I think it woud be better even to destroy it than let it remain there & fall into the Hands of the Enemy. I am in great Haste Your Most Obed't Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

To Colo. Cantine.

Poughkeepsie 19th Aug't 1778.

Sir, As it may be necessary to advance a Sum of Money to the Person appointed to Supply the Militia in actual Service under Colo. Cantine with Provissions in order to enable him to accomplish it, I have, therefor, to request you to pay to Colo. Cantine, four hundred Pounds for this Purpose taking his Receipt for the same. But as I mean to have all these Accounts settled without Delay & to give Orders on them under the privey Seal as in a former Case I coud wish your Entry on this Occassion might be by Way of Memorandum only. I am your most Obed't Serv't

G. C.

To Gerard's Banker, Esq. Treasurer &c.

[No. 1677.]

Colonel Malcom Favors the Plan to Put Tories to Work.

Fort Clinton, Aug. 19 1778.

Dear sir, I am this moment honord with your Excellency's letter of yesterday. I think it adviseable to have a Certificate & flag on board of each Vessell,—they may be separated—and Subject at least to insult.

I shall furnish officers when you require, and forward the business as much as possible wishing them all gone.

I can employ 50 Tory besides what I have very well, only let them be sound wind & Limb. I am not afraid of their getting away—they are fine fellows to work.

Mr. James Ellice who was one of those your Excellency ordered to be detained and put in Close Confinement, we suppose has stated to your Excellency his particular situation at large, and least he might have equivocated in stating his refusal we beg leave to inform your Excellency that after many objections by him offered he refused to take the oath, and afterwards applied for leave to take it. We are with the greatest respect Your Excellency's most Ob't Serv'ts

Jer. V Rensselaer, John M. Beeckman, Mat: Visscher.

His Excellency George Clinton Esqr.

[No. 1680.]

TO EXCHANGE HIDES FOR SHOES AND LEATHER.

The Secretary of the Board of War Communicates with Governor Clinton, Who Orders Major Hatfield to Act Accordingly.

War Office Aug't 20th 1778.

Sir, The Board troubled your Excellency some time ago desiring you would be pleased to appoint a Person to superintend the Hide Department at the Grand Army during its Stay in the State of New York & at the Posts in its Vicinity. Copy of that Letter is enclosed. We are anxious to have some more effectual Measures taken on this Head than those heretofore pursued as the Army now want Shoes & as the Season grows inclement will have a Repetition of their Disstresses in this particular unless timely Precautions are taken. We are informed that Hides are an Article in so great Demand as few are to be had but those from the Cattle used by the Army that our own Terms may be obtained in the Disposition of them. We would wish to be speedily informed of your Proceedure on the Subject of our Letter which was sent

either that Marshall should return or
.e for him.

s we submit it to your Excellency to
ought not to be sent to New York in
nd in order that the Business may be
ur Excellency an Order to the Command-
ery of him to such Person as you shall
Excellency determine that the Exchange is
e effected by our agency the Bearer Mr.
d we are informed he may be trusted, to
and deliver him to Us.

ne Respect Your Excellency's most obed't

athan G: Tompkins, Jos'e Strang, Commis-
icies &c.

[No. 1679.]

missioners on Conspiracies on the Subject of Exchanges.

Albany 20th August 1778.

day received the enclosed examination* from the
Charlotte County, and do ourselves the honor
to your Excellency.

Excellency will receive Letters from Mess'rs
and Dole requesting that one of them may be
o New York to further their exchange and we
vere their request to be granted it would conduce
diting of the exchange.

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*Not found.

will be a sufficient Inducement with you not only to excuse our application to you but to cooperate with us in our Endeavour to procure an ample & certain Supply for the Troops.

By order & on Behalf of the Board I have the Honour to be with great Respect Your obed't Serv't

Richard Peters.

His Excellency Gov'r Clinton.

Poughkeepsie 1st Sep'r 1778.

To Major Hatfield,

Sir, You will receive herewith a Copy of a Letter from the Board of War to me by which you will be pleased to Govern your Conduct as Commissary of Hides. You will perceive it is their earnest desire to exchange Green Hides for Shoes & Leather which they are induced to believe may be effected. It will therefore be your Duty to promote it as much as in your Power & for this Purpose I advise you immediately to publish advertisements in the public Papers of this & the Eastern States encouraging the bringing into Camp those Articles to be exchanged accordingly. I am Sir Your most Obed't

G. C.

[No. 1681.]

Association of Exempts of Kings District, Albany County.

We the subscribers, being under the age of fifty five years who have held Civil or Military Commissions & have not ben Reappointed to our respective Ranks of Office, or being between the age of fifty & fifty five years do hereby, severally, Engage That we will Respectively on all Occations Obey the orders Of our respective Commanding Officers, and will in Cases of Invation or insurrections March to repell the Enemy Or Suppress such

insurrections in the Like manner as the enroled Malitia ar Compell'd to do, so as we shall not, When Call'd out in Detachments, be anexed to any other Regt., Or Company or under the Immediate Command of any other Than Our own Officers.

Witness our Hands this 21st Day of August A D 1778.

Ezra Grant, Hezakiah Baldwin, Thadeus Noble, Alexander McQueen, Abraham Bunce, Zadock Chapen, Silas Howard, Jno. Avery, Walice Hurd, Joseph Atwell, Asa Preston, Solomon Wright, Nathan Ketchem, Parker Pabody, Asa Pees, David Spencer, Titus Curtis, Jacob Ferris, Nehemiah Selah, Samll. Luis, Elnathan Griffeth, Elijah Skinner, Jonathan Douglas, Moses Jones, Zebulon Robins, Jun'r, Joseph Malison, Samll. Ralph, Jonathan Russ, Jno. Stranahan, Eri Jones, Samll. Porter, Samll. Jecocks, Samll. Rusell, David Phine, David Williams, Jacob Pharrenton, Isaa Pebody, Nathan Pebody, Noah Torrey, David Wright, Gidion King, George Darrow, Isaac Herrenton, Peter Heirs, Joseph Harriss.

We the subscribers being a Majority of the Company of Asotiated Exempts Enroled on the other part of this sheet of paper do Hereby Recommend to the Honorable the Council of Safety Apointment

Thadeus Noble, to be Captain; Jonathan Douglas, to be first Lieutenant; Moses Jones, to be Second Lieutenant; and Elijah Skinner Ensign Of the Company Witness our hands.

David Wright, Noah Torrey, Elnathan Griffeth, Samll. Luis, Jacob Pharrenton, Isaac Pabody, Nathan Pabody, David Wright, Gidion King, George Darrow, Isaac Harrinton, Peter Heirs, Joseph Harriss, Zadock Chapen, Alexander McQueen, Ab'm Bunce, Jno. Avery, Asa Preston, Wallis Hurd, Joseph Atwell, Silas How-

ribers Inhabitants of the Northern
hess and Southern parts of the Man-
mbly Sheweth;
Affected and most Loyal Inhabitants
your Petitioners have been despoiled
r arms and great part of their Ready
able Effects by a Gang of Robbers pre-
s of the King of Great Britain, and to

have Reason to Belive from the Con-
f the Inhabitants who have been appre-
Robbers are Secreeted and Concealed by
itants and that many others are detered
coverys to the Civil or millitary authority
he said Robbers of burning their houses and
roperty.

s farther beg leave to inform your Excellency,
ding Parties of the Militia have been frequently
llmost of Collo. Graham's Regiment with Several
Colo. Hopkins's were for Several Days Ranging
endeavouring to discover and apprehend them none
rs were taken by them, owing as your petitioners
here not being a body of men in Readiness to pur-
nediately after the facts were Committed and to the
ity of uncultivated and Mountanous land in the
od where they Seecrete themselves.
ioners, therefore, conceiving it very Improbable that
will be apprehended Unless a Company of men be
at Express purpose—
ray that your Excellency would be pleased to direct

ard, Solomon Wright, Nathan Ketchem, Parker Pabody, Joseph Mallison, Samll. Ralph, Jonathan Russ, Jno. Stranahan, Eri Jones, Samll. Porter, Samll. Jacobs, Samll. Russell, David Finney, Asa Pees, David Spencer, Titus Curtis, Jacob Ferris, Nehemiah Selah, Gidion King.

Kings District County of Albany 21st August 1778.

[No. 1682.]

James Owen, a Tory Returned from the Enemy, Sent to West Point to Work.

By the Commissioners for deceting and defeating all Conspirators &c. Poughkeepsie Aug'st 21st 1778.

James Owen, the bearer, who lately returned from the Enemy hath given Security that he will, within One week from the date, Repair to Fort Arnold and their perform Such Services or duty as he shall be directed to do, by the Commanding Officer at that post, for the Term of one Month, from the time of his Arrival their, or that he Shall at His own Expence provide Another Able Bodied Man to perform such Service as Aforesaid for the Term Aforesaid in his room and to be of his good Behaviour for the Space of one year.

By order of the Board. Tunis Tappen.

[No. 1683.]

A Petition from the Northern Towns of Dutchess County and the Southern Manor Towns for Authority to Raise a Company of Rangers to Protect the Inhabitants from Robbers.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State of New York General and Commander in Chief of all the militia and Admiral of the Navy of the Same.

of the Subscribers Inhabitants of the Northern
unty of Dutchess and Southern parts of the Man-
on: Most Humbly Sheweth;

of the well Affected and most Loyal Inhabitants
urhood of your Petitioners have been despoiled
of all their arms and great part of their Ready
g and Valuable Effects by a Gang of Robbers pre-
he Subjects of the King of Great Britain, and to
uthority.

'etitioners have Reason to Belive from the Con-
umber of the Inhabitants who have been appre-
e Said Robbers are Secreeted and Concealed by
Inhabitants and that many others are detered
ny Discoverys to the Civil or millitary authority
of the said Robbers of burning their houses and
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allmost of Collo. Graham's Regiment with Several
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endeavouring to discover and apprehend them none
were taken by them, owing as your petitioners
e not being a body of men in Readiness to pur-
ately after the facts were Committed and to the
ltivated and Mountanous land in the
Seecrete themselves.

conceiving it very Improbable that
ded Unless a Company of men be
e—

ellency would be pleased to direct

the Raising a Company of about Thirty men, under the Command of an active prudent and Vigilant Officer to continue in Service for such time as your Excellency Shall think proper, to the Raising and compleating of which your Petitioners will give every assistance in their power.

And your Petitioners shall ever pray.

James Talmage, Matth's B. Miller, James Hedden, Wm. Cash, James Hee, Isaac Smith, James Winans, Ezra Thompson, Burnet Miller, Samll. Thompson, Ephraim Paine, Judah Burton, Shenbel Holmes, Enos Thompson, Jos. Curtiss, Ebenezer Kinne, Caleb Thompson, John Rinderson, Joseph Curtis, Jun'r., William Blunt, Joseph Blunt, James Hildreth, Isaiah Dibble, Jesse Thompson, Casper Rowse, John Barnet, Lemuel Brush, Brinton Payne, Benjamin Herrick, Benjamin Herrick, Jur., Robt. Willson, Stephen Reynolds, Joel Ketcham, Enos Mead, Rufus Herrick, Major Tyler, Richard Brush, Shubel Tyler, Luke Guyer, Hugh Wileigh, Jeremiah Gifford, Platt Smith, Amos Thompson, Ichabod Holmes, Samll. Sackett, David Sutherland, David Sutherland, Jr., Reuben Sutherland, Gideon Towsley.

[No. 1684.]

LEWIS AND MORRIS WRITE TO GEORGE CLINTON.

Inform him that Virginia Refuses to Pay her Quota Until her Accounts are Adjusted.

In Congress Philadelphia 21st Aug't 1778.

Sir, Just now a Letter was read from the Governor of Virginia to Congress in which his Excellency (in polite Language) informs Congress that having in vain endeavoured to get their accounts adjusted and the United States being indebted to it, the State of Virginia have determined not to pay any Proportion of their

Quota untill the accounts are settled. We think it our Duty to inform your Excellency of this Circumstance. Whether the State we have the Honor to represent will imitate this Example it is in their wisdom to determine. Many States have received such astonishingly large advances from the Continent that we have no Conception how they can have been expended on the continental account and, therefore, are led to beleive that considerable Sums are due from some Individual, to the United States while on the other Hand it is certain that the Union is considerably indebted to others. Whatever may be the future Determinations of wiser Persons in Congress certain it is that on any Principle Injustice will be done unless all these different accounts be finally closed in a short Time. We do not presume to censure or commend the Conduct of any Sister State much less to hold up any Example to be pursued or avoided, having as we have the fullest Confidence in the Wisdom of our Legislature and that they will upon an intimate Knowlege of their own Circumstances pursue the Line of Conduct which shall be dictated by wisdom Justice and that patriotic attention to the American Cause by which they have hitherto been distinguished among the several States which compose the Confederacy.

We have the Honor to be with deep Respect Your Excellency's most obedient & humble Servant

F. Lewis,

Gouv'r Morris.

P. S. Mr. Duer is now on Business at the Board of War wherefore he hath not an Opportunity of seeing this Letter.

[No. 1685.]

ANOTHER INDIAN RAID.

The Entire Brooks Family of Eleven Captured—One Man Killed and Scalped.

Sir, Yesterday morning a Little after Break of Day a Party of the Enemy to the Number of about Twenty Indians and One McDonald, a Tory, Come to the house of One Brooks and Rushed in and took the whole famaly Prisoners to the Number of Eleven, and there was One man Joseph Hubbard, by name, who made his Escape through a window whom they Shot at and wounded in the Shoulder and took like a Prisner—and Plundered the House of Every thing of any Value that was in it and then set fire to the house—and after they took the Prisners Some Distance from the house they Examined them very Strictly about the Strength of the Guards—how they were Provided with amunition and their Posture of Defence—which they Seem'd to make light of and Said that they wou'd Soon Consume the whole Place—After which they let Old Mr. Brooks and his wife and One of his Daughters and Two Children She had, and his Daughter in law, Hubberd's wife, Return—who happen'd to Come time Enough to Put out the fire—and brought Inteligence to this Post (for it was about Two miles from here) to Capt'n Jackson (for it happened I was not there at that time tho' I Came in the afternoon). There was a Party Sent in Pursuit of them in the afternoon who follow'd their Tracks untill they found the Corps of the wounded man—who they Inhumanly murthered and Scalped—and then Returned, it being night—the Prisners they took with them, was Three of the Old man's Children, to wit: a young Girl of about 15 years of age and Two Boys younger & Two little Girls Children of Said Hubbard the One 5 & the Other 3 years Old.

a Scout Out who Discovered that they
in the woods and took them off.
er of men at Present on the Ground at Both
out Ninety. I have wrote to Coll. Woodhul and
more for to Send Out their Classes in full. From
Serv't

Jacob Newkerk.*

Aug'st the 21st 1778.

John Cantine.

[No. 1686.]

f Clothing Wanted for Four New York State Regiments.

rn of Cloathing wanted for the 4 New York Regiments
Army at White Plains. 21st Aug't 1778.

	Coats	Vests	Bretchess	Stockings	Shoes	Shirts	Hunting Shirts	Overhalls	Hats	Stocks	Blanketts	Woolen Breeches
t's	441	441	441	882	882	882	882	882	441	882	441	
's	262	262	262	524	524	524	524	524	262	524	262	
	47	47	47	670	670	141	670	534	47	382	47	
m's	256	256	256	512	512	512	512	512	256	512	256	
	1006	1006	1006	2588	2588	2059	2588	2452	1006	2300	1006	
rt's	119	390	165	518	269	279	—	—	376	—	298	424

Henry Esqr. Commissary of Cloathing for the State of
York.

ase to deliver to the Order of the Officers commanding
four Regiments respectively the different Articles of
mentioned in the above Return agreable thereto for
f said Regiments and in Case of Deficiency in that Pro-
Given at Poughkeepsie 21st Day of Aug't 1778.

Geo. Clinton.

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*See pages 696-697.

[No. 1687.]

THE COMMISSARY DEPARTMENT IN TROUBLE.

The Cost of the Average Ration Far in Excess of the Price Fixed by the Legislature—Governor Clinton's Comment.

Hunk 21st Aug't 1778.

Dear Sir, I am Sorrey that I am Under the Nessesity of troubleing your Excellency at this time. In my Last I mentioned to you that Lieut. Dirck Wesbrouck had Exccepted to act as Commisary to the Detatchment Under my Command; Mr. Wesbrouck haveing Laid on the frunteers at Asshokan with a Detatchment out of my Regim't, and was oblidged to furnish them with provisions, he whent to Mr. Sands the Day Before yesterday to get his accounts audited; the Sum he had Exspended for the provisions Exceded, what is allowed By the Legislature per Day In Lew of Rations, and, therefore, Cold Not pay him; he then Informed Mr. Sands that he was Ingage to Supply the Detatchment Under my Command and that he was affraid he whould Not Be able to furnish provision at that Rate, and of Consequence Came to me Last Night and told me he Could Not Suply me any Longer at that Risque, Unless I whold keep him Indamnified. I Immediately made up what a Ration whould amount at the Rate I had Bought for ye party at Hunk, found that it Did Not Quite amount to three Shilling a Ration provided I was admited to Sell the hides But as I had Been informed By Coll. Newkark that the Beaf at Peenpack and Mini-Sinck Could Not Be had So Cheap, as we had Bought for the party at Hunk, I therefore, thought it Not Safe for me to promise, and trust to the Legislature for pay. I then Called upon Johannis J. Hardenbergh, David Bevier and other Near me, and askt them if they whould Ingage with me to keep the Commissary Indamnified; they Said they whold till Such time

as I Could have your Excellency's opinion or advice about it; hoping you will assist and guide us if Nessesary, for ye price of Provision are Dayly advancing. I am well Satisfid, that if I am able to make it Hould this month, I Can Not ye Next.

I have this morning Received accounts from Peenpack that Seventeen Indians and tories, have tacken Six men and Some women; the women they toock to the great pond, and there Stript them and Sent them Back. I Can Not Learn weather the men tacken, are Inhabitants or of the guard; the account I have is Very Imperfect; Said to have Come By a men who Came from Peenpack to Mamacoting with his wagon which makes me Doubt at the truth thereof; this moment I Received Intelligence from great Shandakan that the few friends we had at Packatackan are Cheafly Come Down, Left many of their affects Behind them, and are Desireous to have a guard to go and fetch them, which I have directed to go with order to fetch Down our friend and affects, as also the tories and their affects if possible. of Dear Sir your Very Hum'e Ser't

John Cantine.

To Geo. Clinton.

P. S. to fetch Down the grain from Papacton Cannot well Be affected, that at Packatacken I will Indeavour to Get, If I Can Do it, In Short, or Else Destroy it, for as I am Informed our friend Do Not Exspect to Save theirs as the Road Cannot Be used with teems.

Poughkeepsie 22d Aug't 1778.

Dear Sir, I am this Moment favoured with yours of yesterday. I am unhappy to learn that you meet with any Difficulties in supplying your Troops and particularly so when I reflect on the Cause. Where will Extortion End? What have we not to

dread from it? More I am perswaded than from the Arms of our Common Enemy. You have seen the Law impowering me to pay & subsist the Militia called into actual Service; you know the Rate at which the Legislature have fixed a Ration & that was esteemed extravagantly high; beyond this I have no Power. All I can promise is to lay the Accounts which may accrue for Deficiences before the Legislature at their next meeting & point out the Necessity of the Services & the Propriety of making provission for discharging them. This I will do.

I begg that your Scouting Parties & Guards may be vigilant & thereby prevent Surprize. The Affair you mention at Peenpack if true shews the Necessity of this. The Enemy to the Westward under Butler & Brandt are distressed for Provission which shews the propriety of removing or destroying that on Delaware. Yours sincerely.

[G. C.]

Colo. Cantine.

[No. 1688.]

Association of Exempts on Cortlandt Manor.

We the Assocators, agreeabe to the militia Law of this Stait maid and provided for, the associators will Severally on all occasions obay the respective officers that we Shall nominate and the Councel of a Pintement shall apint and Commesion, and will in Cases of Invasion or Incursions of the Enemy or Insurrections march to repel the Enemy or Suppress Such Insurrections in the Like manner as the Enrolled militia air Compelled to Do, So that we Shall not when Called out, be annexed to aney other Reigment or Compney, or be under any other offisers then our own when on gard or pickett.

Delivan, Joseph Osburn, Moses Hadden,
than Jones, Benoni Gray.
ye Subscribers Exempts of ye Manor
e of Mr. Joshua King, in America in
nd agreeable to the Melitia Law of the
ve chosen the Persons under Named to
to ye Law of the Melitia.
Capt., Benj. Jones, 1 Leiut., Moses Hadden, 2
, Ensign.
n, Joseph Osburn, Benjamin Jones, Moses Hadden,
Benoni Gray, Nathan Jones, Ezek'l Hyatt, Obediah
ijah Lee, Josiah Ingersoll, Peter Carnon, Abraham
ohn Vredenburgh Junior, Andrew Brown, Justus Wheel-

[No. 1689.]

Nicholas Couwenhoven Offers to Advance Specie to New York Prisoners of War at New Utrecht.

New Utreght 23 August 1778.

May it Please Your Excellencey, I take the Liberty to Inform You that Daily many Inconveniencies arise to the Officers Now Prisoners on Parole here for Want of Hard money. In Order to Remove the Same I take this Method to Inform You that I am Willing to procure for the Prisoners of the State of New York Such a Sum of Money as You may think Nessessary, and, accordingly, if you Should approve & think the Same Convenient, Shall accept answer and pay of any Draught that your Excellencey may be pleased to Draw on me for that Purpose. I have Since the Begining of those Times already advanced upwards of Seven Hundred pounds to & for the different Prisoners which have

Been here and have always done Every thing in my Power to Relieve the Distress'd part of mankind in every Respect whatever. Therefore, if it Should Not Suit You to Draw on me, If I Could have the Least assurance of your Countenancing me therein Shall with Pleasure advance them or to Mr. L. Pintard for them Such Sums of money as Shall or may be Stipulated by you for the Officers of the State of New York. Even a Verbal Messuage of a Trusty Person with whom I was acquainted Should be Complyed with. After my Comp'ts I remain with the greatest Esteem Your Excellencey's Most Ob't & Very Humb'e Serv't

Nich's Couwenhoven.

To His Excellency Governor Clinton of State of New York.

[No. 1690.]

Governor Clinton Approves of the Raising of a Company at Northeast for Protection Against Robbers.

To his Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor of the State of New York General and Commander in Cheif of all the Militia and Admiral of the Navy of the Same.

The Petition of the Subscribers Inhabitants of the Northern parts of the County of Dutchess and Southern Parts of the Manor of Livingston Most Humbly Sheweth

That Several of the well affected and most Loyal Inhabitants in the Neighbourhood of your Petitioners have been dispoiled and plundered of all their arms and great Part of their Ready money cloathing and valuable Effects by a Gang of Robbers pre-
[illegible] to be Subjects of the King of Great Britain and to act
[illegible]uthority.

Petitioners have Reason to believe from the Confes-

sions of a Number of the Inhabitants who have been apprehended that the Said Robbers are Secreted and Concealed by the disaffected Inhabitants and that many others are deterred from making any Discoverys to the Civil or military authority by the Threats of the said Robbers of burning their houses and destroying their property.

Your Petitioners farther beg leave to inform your Excellency, that notwithstanding Parties of the militia have been frequently called out and almost the whole of Coll. Graham's Regiment with Several Voluntiers from Coll. Hopkins's were for Several days Ranging the woods and endeavouring to discover and apprehend them none of the Robbers were taken by them, owing as your Petitioners conceive, to there not being a body of men in Readiness to pursue them immediately after the facts were Committed and to the great Quantity of uncultivated and mountanous Land in the Neighbourhood where they Secrete themselves.

Your Petitioners, therefore, conceiving it very Improbable that any of them will be apprehended unless a Company of men be raised for that Express purpose, humbly pray that your Excellency wou'd be pleased to direct the Raising a Company of about thirty men, under the Command of a prudent active and vigilant officer, to continue in Service for Such time as your Excellency shall think proper, to the Raising and Compleating of which your Petitioners will give every assistance in their power.

And your Petitioners Shall ever Pray.

Jon'th Landon, Will'm Stewart, Lewis Graham, Augustin Graham, John White, Benjamin Van Luven, Ceonrod Smith, John Wiltse, Jacob Weuer, Jonathan Darling, Jehiel Ferris, John Schermerhorn, Edw'd Kently, Jonathan Britton, Benyamen Kneckerbaker, John Knickerbacker, William Milles, Benjamin

Knickerbacker, William Merifield, Morris Graham, Andris Stickel, And. Bostwick, Ebe'r Husted, Silas Husted, Jocob Polver, Maeckel Polver, Jacob Deeker, Charles ——, Simon Millis, John Kilmor, John Strever, Isaac Vanluven, Thos. Grant, Job Swift.

North East Precinct August 15th 1778.

Poughkeepsie 23d Aug't 1778.

Sir, I have received the Petitions subscribed by you & your Neighbours, requesting that a Company of thirty Men may be raised for assisting the Civil Authority in the Protection of the Inhabitants against the Robers who infest that Part of the Country. I am willing they shoud be indulged in their Request & as far as the Money allowed by the Legislature for paying & subsisting the Militia called into actual Service will enable me, after fulfilling Prior Engagements, I will grant them Continental pay & Subsistance. Not being authorized by Law I cannot give them any other Encouragem't. The Men ought to be raised for some certain Time & not particularly confined to this Service as the Necessity of it may cease & they may be wanted for other State Service. Doct'r Miller informs me that you propose Capt. Talmage to Command this Party whom I much approve and I woud propose Lieut. Wood who has already inlisted five Men & is now at the Goals in Amenia as the other Officer Especially as a small Guard must be always kep there for the Security of the Goals & such Prisoners as may be confined there. You can set about raising the Men as soon as you please when compleated I will give the Officer his Instructions. I am Sir Your most Obed't Serv't

G. C.

Colo. Langdon.

[No. 1691.]

Colonel Peter Van Ness Looks with Ill Favor upon the Raising of an Exempt Regiment Within his Precinct.

Claverack August 24th 1778.

Sir, I am Informed & but very Lately That your Excellencey had Given Incourigment For Appointing a Set of Feild & other officers within the Limits of my Rigi'nt and That of Collo. Whiting's, to Take Command of a Rigiment Associated Exempts within Said Limits provided They Do Associate to the number of 200 or Even 150 men. I have Sent a Request to Captain Joel Pratt to Furnish me with a Coppy of the Associaters names of Those within my Rigiment. Should my Request be Refused which I Expect It will, in that Case, I must beg your Excellencey to Delay the matter, untill I Can be favour'd with a Copy From your Excellencey whenever Their Associations are Returned to your Excellency. I have Reason to Suspect That a Number of my Rigiment of Militia have Associated Themselves with the Exempts without which I Cannot Immagine That the Number Even of 150 men Can be Raised within the Before Mentioned Limits.

The Same Suspision prevails with Collo. Wm. B: Whiting who has Requested me also to beg the favor of your Excellencey That he might be Furnished with a Coppy of the names of Those who have Associated themselves within the Limits of his Rigiment. I am with perfect Esteem & Sincerity. Your Excellencey's Most Obedient & Very Hum'e Servant

Peter Van Ness.

Governor Clinton.

[No. 1692.]

EBENEZER RUSSELL PROTESTS.

Against the Proposition to Offer Amnesty to Tories—Governor Clinton's Reply.

New Perth Charloote County Aug't 17th 1778.

Worthy Sir, I am very Sory that I have occation to wright To your Excellency upon the following Subject, but the Duty I ough to my Country in genaral and to This State In Paticular, Constrains me to lay before you Excel'y the following Grevences: I am Inform'd that there is an act Past Granting free Padon and Indemnification to all Torys within this State upon their Taking an oath of fidelity theirto without any Destingtion to their Crimes; how far This act may be Consistant with the Spirit of the Constitution I am unable to Say, But I am Sure it will Cause a Grate Deel of Deficulty and Disatisfaction In this Part of the State. I am far from Sensureing any body of men acting under athoraty, but I belive it has bin Partly oughing to a Rong Representation of the Crimes Commited by these villins; many of them In this County have Don their best Indevours to In Slave our Country by assisting our Enimy against us; taking up arms with them; Painting them Selfs like the Indians of whom they are most like; going out In Scouts and Impresning our Subjects; Driving of their Cattle to the Enimy; Plundering all they Could find in our houses after we had left them; Swareing Revenge against us. Many of whom whare Incluad In the Capatulation. I Dont Desine to Retaleate with them, but that a line of Justis may be drawn betwin us and them; methinks I hear the blod of those Noble men who fell a Prey to these unhuman villins, Crying aloud for Justis; but if Those that hold the Rains of Goverment will Not aspouse their Cause, I fear they will bring a more heavy Judg

ment upon the Land and cause the Generation yet unborn to Lement the misconduct of their forefathers In Not Revenging the Blood of those Noble marters who fell a Prey In defence of our Country. from your most obediant humbl. Serv't

Ebe'r Russell.

P. S. A line from your Excellency would be Recev'd with grate Respect as the People in this country are very uneasy.

To his Excellency Geo. Clinton Esqr.

Poughkeepsie 24th Aug't 1778.

Sir, I have received your Letter of the 17th Inst. by Capt. Barns. There is an Act (passd the last Session of the Legislature) prescribing a Test to Persons of neutral & equivocal Charecters and on their Refusal to take it, subjecting them to Banishment, making their Return in the State Missprison of Treason. This Act does not apply to persons who have actualy been found in Arms ag't their Country, neither does it operate as a Pardon for any Offence committed by the Persons to whom the Test may be administred. It is not, you may rest assured calculated to favour but to punish the disafected. I am your Most Obed't Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

To Ebeneezer Russell Esqr.

[No. 1693.]

THE MILITIA VERY BACKWARD.

General Ten Broeck Out of All Patience—Commissions for Eight Regiments in His Brigade.

Albany 24th August 1778.

Sir, Col. Benson's letter of the 17th Instant with 8 Packages said to Contain Commissions for 8 Regiments in this Brigade I

ve furnished ab't 130 men, not Exceeding 20 men have
ıed; from Kinderhook Regt. only ab't 10 men; I am out of
tience. It hurts me to see so great a Backwardness. I have
ıg material from the western Frontiers, at Present all seems
Quiet in that Quarter.

th great Esteem I Remain Your Excellency's most Obedient
ıle Servant

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

Excellency George Clinton, Esqr. &c. &c.

[No. 1694.]

Weed and Benjamin and John Booth Refuse the Oath of Allegiance.

New York Ss,

Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the State of New York General
nmander in Chief of all the militia and admiral of the navy of the same.
suance of an act of the Legislature of this State entitled "An Act more effect-
to prevent the mischiefs arising from the Influence and example of persons of
ocal and Suspected Characters in this State" We do hereby notify your Excel-
hat Israel Wood, Benjamin Booth and John Booth of Orange County Having
y appeared before us and being respectively by us tendered the Oath in the said
tained did respectively refuse the same, and that unless your Excellency Shall
oper to detain them for the purpose of exchanging them for any of the subjects
State in the power of the Enemy we shall cause them Respectively to be re-
to some place within the Enemy's Lines.

Corn. E. Wynkoop Jr. Robt. Harpur, Peter Cantine, Jur., Commissioners.
eepsie August 24th 1778.

[No. 1695.]

Commissary of Clothing Curtenius Files a Report.

Wall Kill Aug't 25th 1778.

Inclosed is a Return of what clothes I have given out to
rs to make, & what are cut out & remain on hand. I find
ry difficult to get taylors to work at the Clothes & Shoe-
rs to work at the Shoes, Except I could procure Exemptions
Militia duty for them during the time they are actually em-
l, If your Excellency would be pleased to Impower me to

give such Exemptions to persons employed by me in the public Service it would Expedite the work much. I am with respect S'r Your most Obed't Serv't

Peter T. Curtenius.

His Excell'y Geo. Clinton Esqr.

Suits of Clothes consisting of coats Vests & Breeches Given out to make	Suits of Clothes cut out & Remai'g on hand unmade for want of Taylors	Shirts given out to make & will be all in by the 25 Sept.	Shirts finisht of those given out	Suits of Clothes finisht	Hides in the fatts & will be taken out in about a month	Shoes & stockings to be deliv'd in by the Supervisors
533	487	465	136	None	265	2400 pr stock'gs 2000 p shoes

Hunting Shirts Overhalls Hatts & blankets are not in Store nor have I orders or Cash in hand to purchase them. I have wrote to the Supervisors to deliver in the Shoes & Stockings as soon as possible, & have also advertized it in the public papers —but not a pr as yet have come in.

The above is a True return

Aug't 25 1778.

Peter T. Curtenius.

[No. 1696.]

Zebulon Wallbridge, of Dutchess, and Richard Harison, of Ulster County, Refuse the Oath of Allegiance.

State of New York Ss,

To his Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the State of New York General and Commander in Chief of all the militia, and admiral of the navy of the same.

In pursuance of an act of the Legislature of this State entitled "An Act more effectually to prevent the mischiefs arising from the Influence and example persons of "Equivocal and Suspected Characters in this State" We do hereby notify your Excellency that Zebulon Wallbridge of Dutchess County and Richard Harison Esquire of Ulster County, having severally appeared before us and being respectively by us tendered the oath in the said act contained did respectively refuse the same, and that unless your Excellency Shall think proper to detain them for the purpose of exchanging them for any of the subjects of this State in the power of the Enemy we shall cause them Respectively to be removed to some place within the Enemy's lines.

Robt. Harpur, Peter Cantine, Jur. Zepha. Platt, Commissioners.

Poughkeepsie August 26th 1778.

[No. 1697.]

George Anderson Seeks His Stolen Mare.

Poughkeepsie Aug't 26th 1778.

Gent. George Anderson, who lately made his Escape from Captivity, has waited on his Excellency the Gov'r & acquainted him that the Party under your Command had taken his Mare from Papapunk & that she is to be exposed to sale with several others on Fryday next, & requested of his Excellency an Order that she may be delivered to him again as he is much distressed for the want of her.

His Excellency, therefore, has directed me in his name, to request that you cause the mare to be delivered to him on his making application for her. I am &c.

Robt. Benson, A. D. C.

To Capt. Van Kuren & Capt. Nicolls.

[No. 1698.]

Commissary John Henry's Returns of Clothing at Shawangunk.

A Return of the Cloathing in Store.

White & Brown Shirts	Rotten Sheep Skin Breeches	Under Vests	Damag'd Shoes	Damag'd & half worn Hose	Sailors Bonnets	Overalls & Frocks	Old Blankets Damag'd
147	89	76	16	127	18	6	6½
				The above were Deliv'd in Store by the County Committee in 1777		N. B. in the above quanty is 1 Frock	

There is also in Store a Tent & 13 Tent bags; 2 Pieces blue Frize which will make 18 Vests; 2 Pieces & 16 or 17 Yds. narow Linen; also a quantity mitts; 13 or 14 Yds. thin Narow Dowlas.

The above pieces of Frize & Linen Mr. Curtenius will want

for Linings. He has had from me out of the Store: 4 Pieces oznabrigs & 18 Pieces Narow Dowlas.

John Henry.

Shawangunck 26th Aug't 1778.

[No. 1699.]

Colonel W. B. Whiting Intercedes for Culprits.

Kings Destrict Aug't 26: 1778.

Honr'd Sir, I am Desired by a Number of the Respectable Inhabitants of Kings Destrict & in their Behalf to acquaint you of the State & Circumstances of the men that were fin'd by the Court Martial; that they as a Body have always been free & Willing to go in the defence of their Country; that they have been ever since the War so repeatedly Called out into actual service; that some of them are reduced to the most Endigent Circumstances not having any Provision but what they Labour for, as their Wages will not go far to purches, they think the men, notwithstanding gilty and deserve to be punished; yet as many of the Offenders have not a single Dollar to help themselves or family (Scarcely), it will Discourage them from the Service, as it will drive them to the greatest Distress; they think that if the men can be Pardoned & the Law Vindicated the Offenders in General have such a vew of their crime, they will not again transgress; but as the Gentlemen who bare this Letter will inform you more fully of the Matter, shall conclude, adding that if, it can be Consistant with the Law to have them pardoned, I think it will be Expedient at this time to do it, but submit the Matter to your Superior wisdom, & Remain your Honor's Humble Servant

W. B. Whiting.

To Genl. Ten Broeck.

[No. 1700.]

Colonel John Harper Writes Governor Clinton in Regard to Volunteers and Sufferers in the Mohawk Valley.

Cochnewago August the 27 1778.

Sir, Agreeabell to your Desire, I proseded with Colo. Butler who is at Scoharey; the volintters that I mentined to your Excellencey are Classed with the Rest of the molity [militia]; as I had no pirtikler order from your Excellencey for Raising of them I have yet one Companey under the Comand of my Brother Alex that are Now with Colonell Butler who are imployed as gides. I Can Rais more volenteers, but as I have no orders from you, the ofesers pay no Respect to their ingagements, as I have nothing to Show for my Conduct. I am now at a grait loss for a few lines of instrutions from your Excellency. Shall Be under the disagreeabell Nesisaty of Staying at home. I took three Indins with me to Scoharey and all that I have Seen are willing to Joyn me on the ocation; their is a number of the Catell brought of from the froonteers who are the property of thos persons that wair in arms last year and ware Referd to a tryall at Law for their Lives and propertys By the Counsell of Safty September last. I beg that your Excellency will Send a few lines Conserning that mater as their propertys wair Continewed with them by the Comissoners of Soquestration untill they Should have their tryall; the Cas is truly Deplorabell with maney of those peopel whos Catell are Drove of, who have potitined for aid and find Distress. I am Sir with Respect Your most obedient and Humbell Servent

John Harper.

To George Clinton, Esqr.

[No. 1701.]

Washington Orders Captain Colston in Custody in Consequence of an Affray with Mr. Van Tassel.

Head Quarters 27th Aug'st 1778.

Sir, His Excellency has received yours of this date, informing him of the unlucky fray between Captain Colston and an inhabitant, [Mr. Van Tassel] by which the latter is dangerously wounded. Should the wound prove mortal, the civil authority of the State will undoubtedly demand a trial, and should the offender not be found to answer the charge they would with reason complain. His Excellency, therefore, desires that Capt. Colston should be put into safe custody, in such manner as suits an officer of his rank, until the fate of the wounded man is determined. I am Sir &c.

Tench Tilghman.

Brig'r Genl. Muhlenberg.

Copy.

[No. 1702.]

THE CAPTURE OF THE BROOKS FAMILY.

Colonel Cantine Brings Charges of Cowardice Against Several Militia Officers.

Marbletown Aug't 28 1778.

Dear Sir, The Inclosed is a Letter I Received the twenty Second Instant of Colo. Newkark* from whence it appears that the affair of Peenpack mentioned in my Last is true, I also had Informations of the Unsoldierly Beheavour of the troops at them posts, which Caused my Going their to Inquire into the matter, wich haveing Done I found that also to Be true, Capt. Miller, of Colo. Heathorn's Regim't, haveing avecuated his post, on the freevilous Report that two Indians haveing Been Seen By some

*See pages 678-679.

of his Scouts, which had Been out a few miles into the woods, he went of in Such a Hurrey, as to Leave his Bread in the oven and his Beef in the well. Notwithstanding he was in a fort which with the men he had in it might In my opinion Have Been Defended against five Hundred men, Lieut. Tryon, of Colo. Ellison's Regt., Hearing that the Enemy was Back of Jacob Dewitt's mill at the time Mr. Broock's family was tacken, Run of, Saying Every man for him Self and God for us all, and went of with the greater part of the Company, Not Returning till the Next Day, (if my Information is Right); the Conduct of these 10 men appeared So Scandilous that I Could Not avoid Laying them under Errest and order them to Repear to the Court martial Held at Goshen the 25 Instant. The guard from Shandakan haveing fetch Down the Inhabitant of Packatackan with Some of their Effects Returned on the Evening of the 26th Instant. Petter Hendricks who was Left their, Came Down Immediately after them with the following Information that Harmanis Dumon who was going to his place at Packatackan meet the guard Comeing from there about five miles from it. Dumon preceeded on to his house, Loaded his wagon with his affects, and on his Return about two miles from his house was shot through the Belly. Petter Hendricks further Says, that their was two Hundred of the Enemy and the few Cattle that Seame to have Been Left was all tacken of,—as the time of Capt. Conklen (who Lays at that post) of Colo. Hasbrouck's Regim't is Exspired to Day and No Relief is yet Come to that place, I, with the advice of Coll. Pawling, Called Some of my own Regim't to fetch Down Dumon as well as to Distroy ye provision on that place agreeable to your of the 22d of, Sir, Your affectionate friend & Hum'e Ser't

P. S. Their are None of Colo. Wodhull men yet on the ground at Peenpack. I have a Small Scout to Papacton In order to get Middagh & Bush who are to Return on Sunday or Monday if they meet with No misfortune. The Scout who was Commanded By Capt. Nicoll & Capt. Vancuren, as I have of Late Been Informed, have Not acted agreeable to orders, haveing plunder in Vew, more then the good of their Cuntry; Refuse to Let Andries have the mare which many of them In my hearing promised to Bring Down for him.

[No. 1703.]

Certificate of Magistrate Samuel Robinson in Regard to Certain Persons Banished from Vermont.

The bearer, Daniel Marsh, informed me that he is an Inhabitant of the New Hampshire Grants and lived in Durrem, that after the evacuation of Ticonderoga he removed upon his farm, in consequence of the advice he heard I had given such of the People as applied to me.

This may certify that I did advise the Inhabitants to remain upon their Farms as the Houses that were abandoned whare plundered by the militia in spite of all I could do to prevent it.

Ar. St. Clear Major.

To whom it may concern. subscribed before Abraham Drake Cambridge Albany County.

A true Copy taken before me this 22d of August 1778. John Younglove Justice of the Peace.

Bennington Aug't 29th 1778.

State of Vermont.

These certify that Timothy Bull, Oliver Colvin, John Phillips, Phillips & John Phillips Jun'r were sentence to

banishment by the Commissioners, tho' much against their Wills (& the Commonality) who were under my care before; did apply to me to get them reprieved from that Sentence as they look on it unjust, but were willing to be under any proper confinement or still under my Care; which I could not as they were sent off in great haste as I suppose for fear of some of the Sons of Freedom would relieve them.

Samll. Robinson, Just. Peace.

[No. 1704.]

Additions to the Army of Tories.

May it please your Excellency, In Obedience to an act of the Legislature of this State entitled "An Act more effectually to prevent the mischiefs arising from the Influence "and example of persons of equivocal and suspected characters in this State" We notify your Excellency that Lewis McDonald, Stephen Baxter, of Bedford, John Green, of North Castle, Farmer, Benjamin Close, of Salem, & James Banks, of Middle Patent being Persons of neutral & equivocal characters as described in the said Act, being severally by us tendered the Oath in the said Act, contained, respectively refused to take the same, And that unless Your Excellency shall think proper to detain or confine them for the purpose of exchanging them for any of the Subjects of this State in the Power of the Enemy, We shall cause them to be removed within the Enemy's Lines. We remain your Excellency's most Obedient Humble Servants

Egb't Benson, Jos'e Strang, Jonathan G. Tompkins, Commiss'rs for Conspiracies &ca.
Westchester County, Aug't 29th 1778.

[No. 1705.]

Governor Clinton Overrrules Colonel Van Ness and Establishes a Precedent.

Claverack August 26th 1778.

Sir, Yesterday Major Esselstyn, of Collo. Robt. Van Renselaer's Regiment, offered For Qualifycation To me, one Jacob Best, as Appointed for a Subalteran officer in Collo. Renselaer's Regiment and this Same man is an Inhabitant in a Beat or Company within the Limits of my Rigiment. I Did not Conceive that he Could Consistantly be appointed In an other Rigiment, and upon that Seposition I *refused to* Qualify the Said Jacob Best as Such. It

upon a fair Representation of the Matter your Excellencey Should think propper To Judge this Measure Requisite, I Shall Submitt and Give up the point. For This Representation I must beg your Excellency to Inquire by Peter Cantine, Esqr. & Quartermaster Gemrych, who is the Bearer hereof. Mr. Cantine I Beleive is now at Poogkeepsie. Those Two persons are well acquainted with the Transactions During the whole of this Dispute. If your Excellency Should be of Opinion that an Inhabitant Residing within the Limits of one Rigiment Can with any Degree of Legallity be appointed a Subalteren officer In another Rigiment I Shall Give up the point. Till Then I will Look upon Jacob Best to be Either a private or an Exempt and Liable to Do Duty In my Rigiment. I am your Excellency's Most Obediant and Very Very Hum'e Servant

Peter Van Ness.

To Governer Clinton.

Poughkeepsie 29th Aug't 1778.

D'r Sir, I am favoured with your Letters of the 24th & 26th Instant. Colo. Van Renselaer gave the Council of Appointm't a full & I believe a very Candid account of the Time of Lieut. Best at the Time of his appointment. And tho' they mean not to establish it as a Presedent, yet in that particular Case they thought it Right to appoint him to his former Rank & Command tho removed out of the Regt.

Agreable to your Request I inclose you Copies of the List of Associators in your Regt. & Colo. Whiting's as returned to me you will please to furnish Colo. Whiting with Copies from those [illegible] you, I am &c.

[G. C.]

[No. 1706.]

imony of Nathaniel Morgan in the Van Schaack Robbery Case.

t of the Examination of Nathaniel Morgan*—who is therein named John Morgan, Nathaniel Morgan, alias John Williams:

'hat they then went to Doctor Ducalon's—that Ducalon made them welcome and ed very intimate with the two Sloss's—that here he found a Scotchman who called elf by the name of Robert Lewis at that Time, but that he afterwards heard him l Robert Youngs—that he had a Sore leg—that after they had been a while at Duca- Ducalon proposed to them the robbing of Van Schaack where he said there was d deal of hard money—that Ducalon proposed the manner of dressing themselves—wo Sloss's were to put on two wigs which Ducalon provided them with, and they all to black their faces—that about Six o'Clock in the Evening they left Ducalon's went to Van Schaack's—that Ducalon told them that if any Body came from the e they should fire at him—that they then went up to the House—that they were little distance from it when a man came running out—that Ducalon immediately ed his piece at the man, and it Snapped twice—that after committing the Robbery all went down to William Bartow's who lives at the River Side—that they asked w whether he would carry them across the River with his Batteau, which he told he would, got the Batteau and they all went into it, and crossed the River—that they landed on the east Side they went to a little House where Ducalon asked Candle—the man of the House answered he had none—Ducalon said he must have that after Searching a while a Candle was found—that they went to a Small Hut of the House where they divided the money—that Ducalon's share of the money nted to eight Silver Dollars."

e above is truly copied from an Examination of Nathaniel Morgan which is in the writing of Mr. Leonard Gansevoort, Jun'r, Clerk to the Commissioners for detecting piracies &c. at Albany— the said Examination is Subscribed by Cornelius Humfrey, ., as a Justice of the peace, is tested the 29th August 1778. And the s'd Leonard evoort lately in Court made Oath that the said Examination was taken at Claverack Morgan was apprehended & before he was sent to be committed to Albany Gaol.

John McKesson.

[No. 1707.]

CONTINENTAL TROOPS AT CHERRY VALLEY.

eral Ten Broeck on Corporal Punishments and Courts Martial Generally—Appeals to the Governor for Enlightenment.

Albany 29th Aug'st 1778.

Sir, I acquainted your Excellency some time ago, that I had dered a General Court martial for the Trial of such of the litia of my Brigade as refused or neglected to march & those o marched & deserted. A general Court martial for this Purse I appointed to Try the Delinquents of the four Southern gts., on the East side of the River & one other for the Trial of se Regiments to the northward of them which were Ordered o Service. I have already Informed your Excellency that the

*See page 665, and documents 1861 and 1888, Volume IV.

number of Offenders are very great. The last mentioned Court have Reported to me their Proceedings. The former have Reported only in part; they are still Setting & I Expect their farther Proceedings soon; they meet with many Difficulties in getting the Offenders brought before them; the greatest Offenders keep out of the way to avoid a Tryal; the Officers tell me it is Impossible to have them apprehended as they keep Sculking in the woods. I this day Rec'd a letter from Col: Whiting* of which I inclose your Excellency a Copy.

The Court martial which have Tryed the Delinquents of Col. Whiting's Regiment have adjudged Corporal Punishments or pay a fine in Commutation thereof; the Court in this Quarter have not adjudged Corporal Punishment but laid fines, on failure of payment have directed Imprisonment; these fines have been Generally paid & not one person as yet Imprisoned. The Officer who delivered me Col. Whiting's letter Informs me that their men Exclaim most Bitterly against the Corporal Punishment Ordered by the Court, & he says he Conceives it will be Impossible to Carry it into Execution, & if it should be attempted, that it will Create Inconceivable Disturbances, as the men appear Determined not to Suffer it; the men he says in general are very Poor & Cannot, as they have not the money pay the fines to Commute for Corporal Punishment, but thinks if the Corporal Punishment & the one half of the fines be Remitted that they may be able & willing to pay it & that it would have very Salutary Effects. I would, therefore, beg your Excellency's advise on this Important matter, as also on the Proceedings of the Courts martial above mentioned. I have Confirmed the Several Sentences of Both Courts; whether it is Strictly agreeable to the letter of the Law I don't know, but what I have done I conceived for the good of the Service. Perhaps I am mistaken, if so, I wish to be sett Right by

*See page 694.

your Excellency; I would also be glad to know whether the Proceedings ought not to have your Excellencie's approbation or Disapprobation. Will it be necessary, Sir, to appoint another General Court or Courts martial to Try such of the militia (whose number is still great) as have neglected or Refused to march; or can it be done by a Regimental Court; if this can be done, it will save the great Expense of a General Court martial (for they Expect to be paid for their Services) & bring the offenders more Speedily to Tryal. Your Excellency's Goodness will I hope Excuse the Liberty I have taken in Requesting your Sentiments on these Several heads. As it seems to be Quiet to the westward & about 300 Continental Troops are Stationed at Cherry Valey & about the same number at Schohary, & as the time of Service of the militia of my Brigade now at those places Expires the 17th Sep'r, will it be necessary to Order an other ¼ part to those places for one month more; in this I wish to have your Excellency's directions as soon as Possible.

I was mistaken; not a man of Colonel Livingston's Regiment has Joined the Detachment at Cherry Valey; the few that were on their march have deserted; what must be done with these Folks? I Remain with great Regard Your Excellency's Most Obedient Humble Servant

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

His Excellency, George Clinton, Esqr.

[No. 1708.]

Washington Directs George Clinton to Strengthen the Defences in the Highlands.

Poukeepsie 29th Aug't 1778.

Dear Sir; I am this Moment honored with the Receipt of your Excellency's Letter* of yesterday. It shall be my first Business

* Washington's letter not found.

to order out a Detachment of the Militia to strenghthen the Garrison in the Highlands tho I much doubt (considering the large proportion which are constantly kep out on the Frontiers) whether I shall be able to march & keep out at those Posts for any considerable Time a Number larger than the least mentioned in your Excellency's Letter, especially as the Service in Garrison [is] not so agreeable to them as that of the Field. At the same Time I have not the least Doubt if any Movements of the Enemy shoud render it Necessary that I shall be able to draw out a Considerable Force to join the Army immediately under your Excellency's Command and I will immediately make the Necessary Dispositions for that Purpose.

The People having entertained high expectations from the Operations of the Fleet & Army at Rhode Island, will without Doubt be disappointed on finding that Count D'Estaing has left that Place & gone to Boston: however, I make not the least Doubt but that they will suppose it for the best & that the Injuries the fleet must have sustained in the late Storm has occasioned this sudden movement.

[G. C.]

[To Genl. Washington.]

[No. 1709.]

George Clinton Communicates with a Congressional Committee in Regard to Appointment of Officers in the Continental Line.

Poughkeepsie Aug't 29th 1778.

Gentlemen, I have received your favor of the 28th Inst. In answer to which I have to inform you that as early as the 29th of June last I transmitted to Mr. Morris who was then of the Committee of Congress for settling the arrangement of the Army a Return of Colo. Gansevoort Regt. agreable to the new Estab-

m't as returned by him to me, and before that time I had also t to Mr. Morris similar Returns of Colo. Dubois's & James ingston's Regts.—in these Returns the names of the Supernary Officers of Merrit of those Regiments respectively with ir Recommendations were inserted. I was employed in the itary Line at the time the late Convention by their Committee ned the Arrangem't & settled the Rank of the Regts. raised ler the Direction of this State; and I have never been furhed with any part of their Proceed'gs or the Principles on ich that Arrangem't was made; it is therefore not in my Power give you any Information on that Subject.

'he Constitution of this State is altogether silent with respect the Appointm't of Officers in the cont'l line, neither has the gislature made any Provision for the purpose: yet I have the atest Reason to believe that the Recommendation of the Genl. lcers will have great weight with those who may be authorized make the Appointm'ts. I shall take the earliest Oppertunity laying this matter before the Legislature. I am &c.

G. Clinton.

e hon'ble Jos. Reed & John Banister, Esqrs.

P. S. The Returns above alluded to may be much sooner obned by applying to Mr. Morris, than to the Colos. especially lo. Gansevoort's as he is now at Fort Schuyler.

[No. 1710.]

Peter R. Fell Wishes Time and Pay of Brigade Major.

New Bridge 30th Aug't 1778.

I am sorry I had not the pleasure of seeing your Excellency ıen at Camp as your Brother General Clinton tells me a Certifi-

cate from you will enable me to receive pay for the Time I served as Brigade Major. If Your Excellency thinks proper I shou'd be paid, a Certificate mentioning the Time and that the Money has not been Received will much oblige Your Excellency's Most Obed't Serv't

Peter R. Fell.

His Excellency, George Clinton.

[No. 1711.]

Albany Commissioners of Sequestration Call Colonel William Butler to Account.

Sir, We have just to inform you that we Commissioners of Sequestration appointed by the Legislature of this State are just arrived at this place and perceiving by an advertisement baring date 22d Inst., under your Signiture that you entend to make Sale of Cattle Brought in by your Scouts, excepting such as belong to the Honest Inhabitants, we, therefore, think it our duty to acquaint you, that in Consequence of a Law of this State, we, as Commissioners, appointed for the purpose of taking the Cattle and other Effects of persons gone over to the Enemy and make Sale thereof for the benefit of this State, have a right and do hereby in behalf of this State make Demand of all Cattle &c., as aforesaid excepting such as have been taken from the Enemy which they where Actually Driving of, which we conceive to be plunder, to which we request your Immediate Answer. We are Sir Your most humb'e Serv'ts

Mynd't Roseboom, Floris Bancker, Comm's.

Schohary 31st Aug't 1778.

To Col: Wm. Butler.

[No. 1712.]

Governor Clinton Offers a Suggestion for the Treatment of Delinquent Militiamen.

Poughkeepsie Aug't 31st 1778.

Sir, I have rec'd your Letter of the 24th Inst. with its inclosures which will be laid before the Council of Appointm't at their next meet'g. I am surprised to find that out of your whole Brigade only 320 men are now in actual Service; when the County of Ulster alone has for some time past had at least an equal number on the frontiers of that County; Orange in the same Proportion. I cant doubt that you have taken great Pains to get the men out, but I am certain that your Officers must have fail'd in their Duty. They have Power of Trying Offenders Capitally for such Neglects which are made Desertion by the Militia Law. They may inflict Corporall Punishments or commute for Fines. If this Authority was rigorously exerted in a few Instances on the most refractory it woud not fail of reducing them to a proper Sense of their Duty; you ought to see that this is done.

The Enemy at New York & its vicinity appear to be in a general Fermentation & from the best Accounts are preparing for some great Movem't. In Consequence of which Genl. Washington has requested one thousand of the Militia of this State to strenghthen the Posts in the Highlands, the Times for which the Eastern Militia who now garrison them were to serve being nearly expired & that the whole be in the most perfect Readiness to march for the Reinforcement of his Army shoud the same become necessary. The first part of this Request is more than can be asked from the Militia South of your Brigade without doing them great Injustice. It is necessary, therefore, that a Proportion of them be taken from

some of your Regiments, and as I observe that Colo. Livingston's & the Kinderhook Regt., afford you little or no Aid on the Frontiers, I am induced to believe it will be best to assign them with one good one, to wit, Colo. Robt. Renselaer's Regt., to this Service. You will, therefore, on Receipt hereof, order one fourth Part of those Regts. to march properly Officered, armed & equiped to Fort Arnold, without Delay & that the Officers make me a return of the names of the Officers & Men which may be classed for this Service. The whole Militia at the same Time are to be held in the most perfect Readiness. The French Fleet are gone round to Boston to repair the Injuries rec'd in the late Storm. Lord Howe sailed from the Hook last Thursday with 11 Sail & 6 British Regt. on Board. In all probabillity the Operations ag't Rhode Island will fail for the present. I am your most Obed't

G. C.

The hon'ble, Brig'r Genl. Ten Broeck.

[No. 1713.]

Colonel Whiting Carries the Case of His Delinquents to Governor Clinton.

Kings District Aug'st 31 1778.

May it please your Excellency, I think my Duty to acquaint you of the State & circumstances of my Regiment; that they as a body have ever since the war bin zealously ingaged, not Regarding their privet concerns or interest when their injured Country Call'd for their assistance against the Common Enemy & the more infamous torys; notwithstanding I was so unhappy as to find that a number of them Did this Last May & June Disobey

orders & Desert, when at the wesward to gard the fronteirs; that a general Court martial was Call'd which gave Judgment against them which was Ratefied by General Tin Broeck. I Call'd the Delinquents togather, in order to have the Judgment put into Execution by paying the money; that they with numbers of the Respectable inhabitants acquainted me of their indigent circumstances; that maney of them who Rais'd provision Enough before the war & to spare, are now obliged to Labour for their Daly Bread at Days work, as their farmes Could not be attended to by Reason of the war; & I need not tel you that their wagers by the amazing fall of money is very trifeling when put in Compition with necessarys of Life; that to Exact the Several Sums from them, (who have so Largly by the Repeated Calls into actual Servis as none of them have slaves or servants to Leave on their farmes to Cast in Sead into the ground), I found to be attended with such Delicacy that I suspended the matter, as I was apprehensive had I proceeded to collect the money, they must have suffered exstreamly & to have put on the stripes would have put the District in the greatest flame; & I am of opinion it woud have Cool'd their zeal if not Discouraged them in the cause. I wrote to the General on the Subject & his thoughts on the matter were such that he chose to suspend his advice for a few Days. In the mene time I thought it Expediant to inform you of the matter & beg that I might be honor'd with your Excellency's Directions by Maj'r Beebe, the barer of this, to whome I would Refer you for more perticulars, as he is a Genteman of varacity & great candor & will I Doubte not give you a more Explicit acount of the circumstances of the Regiment in general; but before I conclude, I would Beg Leave to Remark, that if the men can be Led to vew

the Number of Indians at those places, some thought 500 others 600 & others fewer.

The Deponent was also told that [Walter] Butler is at Chamong with 1100 Indians.

That Brandt commands at Achquaga & that their Intentions is not to Attack the Frontiers, unless the British Troops make an excursion out of York. Bread very scarce.

Sworn the 29th Aug't 1778.

MANUSCRIPT VOL. VI

[No. 1715.]

Gouverneur Morris Notifies Governor Clinton that an Accurate Account Must be Kept of Military Stores.

In Congress 1st Sep'r 1778.

Sir, A Debate just now in the House relative to some Cannon the Property of the United States, which lately arrived in a Southern Port, calls my Attention to a matter which I had the Honor of mentioning shortly before I left the State either to the Assembly or the Council of Safety of which I was a member. Your Excellency is not to be informed that the Cannon of the State of New York as well those in the City as those which were at the Posts of Ticonderoga and Crown Point were frankly and generously submitted to the Use of the United States.* A Day of Reckoning must arrive and I hope the State will be prepared with an accurate Account (among other things) of the military Stores which they have furnished to the Continent. I know well there will be great Difficulty in collecting the necessary Documents on this Occasion and, therefore, it is the more worthy of the early Attention of your Excellency and of the Legislature. You will excuse, Sir, my mentioning to you a matter perhaps not strictly within my Line upon a Principle which I beg you to believe, that I cannot on any Occasion omit attending to matters which respect the Interests of those I have the Honor to represent. I am most respectfully Your Excellency's obedient & humble Servant

Gouv. Morris.

George Clinton.]

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*To understand this allusion of Gouverneur Morris's the reader is referred to pages 303-315, with the foot notes under pages 308-311.—STATE HISTORIAN.

[No. 1716.]

The Commissioners of Sequestration Submit Their Side of the Case to Governor Clinton.

[Sept. 1, 1778.]

May it pleas your Excellancy, Inclosed is Copy of a Letter sent Coll. Butler* on Receipt of which he requested us to wait on him, which we Immediately did, Shew him our Instructions and came to the following agreement; that as there was a great Number of Cattle and Horses Indiscraminately brought in, numbers of which belonged to the well affected Inhabitants, which is to be returned, and the Remainder to be sold agreeable to Coll. Butler's advertisement, as a longer detention of the Sale would Occation a great Destruction of Fodder to the Inhabitants, and the proceeds arrising from the Sale thereof to remain in Coll. Butler's hands, untill your Excellancy and General Washington's pleasure is known Concerning the same, wether the Proceeds should be refunded to us for the use of the State or distributed to the Soldery as plunder.

Should the Soldery be Incouraged to plunder the Farms as they now have done, (they having in many Instances exceeded our Instructions), the Inhabitants would be in a verry disagreeable Situation, and such Incouragement would, we conceive, Create in them a sort of Licentiousness which it is not possable to say what length they may carry it, for from all the Information we can collect, we cannot find that they have taken any Cattle or Horses Immediately out of the hands of the Enemy. We should have wrote your Excellancy more fully also Concerning General Stark's Conduct but being short of time and paper prevents. We are with the Greatest respect

Your Excellancy's most Obedient and most humb'e Serv'ts

Mynd't Roseboom, Floris Bancker, Commis's Sequestration.

To His Excellency, George Clinton Esqr.

*See pages 706 and 710-711.

[No. 1717.]

Clinton Remits the Sentences Imposed on Colonel Whiting's Men.

Poughkeepsie 1st Sep'r 1778.

Sir, Genl. Ten Broeck has transmitted to me a Copy of your Letter to him of the 26th Ultimo by which it appears that sundry Persons of your Regiment have been tried by Court Martial for Disobedience of Orders & Neglect of Duty & sentenced to Corporael Punishment—That Fines are imposed in Lieu thereof, for which they may commute, But that from their Indigent Circumstances they are unable to take the Benefit of this Alternative. The Spirited Conduct of your Regiment on former Occassions induces me to entertain a very favourable Oppinion of them & to believe in the present Instance their Crimes have proceeded from Error of Judgment rather than any Design of Transgressing the Law, and as I am much averse to the inflicting of Ignominous Punishments, if it can be avoided, I have thought proper to advise Genl. Ten Broeck to remit it in the Present Case, to such as you shall judge proper, trusting at the same Time that this Instance of Lenity, instead of encouraging them to a Repetion of their Crime, will have a better Effect than Punishment, by inducing them chearfully to submit to their Duty.

I shall be under the necessity of convening the Legislature on the first of next month for the Election of Delegates in Congress, as the Time for which the present Delegates are elected expires the 3d of next Month, & I expect you will accordingly give your punctual Attendance.

You will have heard before this can reach you that the French Fleet have left Rhode Island & gone Round to Boston to repair the Injuries rec'd in the late Storm. The Enemy at New York

& its vicinity are in a general Fermentation & seemingly preparing for some great Movement. What it will be is hard to Conjecture. I am with great Esteem Your most Obed't Serv't

Geo: Clinton.

Colo. Whiting.

[No. 1718.]

Governor Clinton Notifies Richard Peters of Major Hatfield's Appointment as Commissary of Hides.

Poughkeepsie 1st Sep'r 1778.

Sir, I have this Moment received your Letter of the 20th Ultimo In Answer to which I begg Leave to refer you to the inclosed Copy of my Letter to the Board of War of the 11th of last Month & of Major Hatfield's appointment to the Office of Commissary of Hides. The Original Letter I delivered to Colo. Ewing to forward & Mr. Hatfield who was with him at the Time, accepted of his Appointment & was to enter immediately on the Execution of his Office. Major Hatfield is an Industrious man, of good Charecter & as he has heretofore carried on the Business of Tanning extensively, he is, therefore, well acquainted with the Mode of curing Green Hides, the Knowledge of which I am informed, is essentially necessary to the executing of that Office to advantage. His Knowledge also of the Quality & value of Leather & Shoes will enable him the better to serve the public by bartering Green Hides for those Articles, & that no Time may be losst in that necessary Business, a Copy of your Letter shall be transmitted to him for the Government of his Conduct, with orders to publish Advertisements in the different Papers of this & the Eastern States for encouraging the bringing into Camp

to be exchanged for Hides. I am, Sir, with
Your most Obed't Ser.

G. C.

Esqr. Sec'y of the Board of War.

[No. 1719.]

Clinton Furnishes President Laurens with Evidence Relating Breaches of the Saratoga Convention.

Poukeepsie 1st Sep'r 1778.

the Honor of inclosing to your Excellency, several
respecting the Infraction of the Convention of Sara-
the Part of the Enemy. They contain all the Evidence
the strictest Attention to the Business I have as yet
obtain of that Fact; But as I have long since sent
into Canada for this Purpose with Directions to
Incouragement to some of the most reputable & In-
persons who lived in the Northern Parts of this State
the Enemy, & being included in the Convention went
Canada to return Home, I entertain Hopes of being
to furnish Congress with more ample & conclusive
this Head. I have the Honor to be with great
Your Excellency's Most Obed't Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

Excy, Henry Laurens, Presid't of Congress.

[No. 1720.]

THE OFFICERS TRIED BY COURT MARTIAL.

Tryal Found Guilty and Captain Miller and Lieutenant Tryon Acquitted.

Goshen Sept'r 1 1778.

ease Your Excell'y. Agreeable to your Order of the
Court Martial was held at this place & a Copy of
ngs is herewith Submited to your aprobation.

I intended to have called before s'd Court Capt. Courtright of Col. Allison's Regt., who has been had before the Board of Commissioners for Detecting & Defeating of Conspiracies and charged with haveing held a Criminal Corespondance with those paracides that went from Minisink last Spring & Joind the Indians, & also being Privy to their Scheems, which he has confessed; but as the offence was not commited in Service of cource he was not subject to the Continental Articles of War, nor could we find the Offence taken notice of by the Regulations of the Militia. I have, therefore, Suspended him from acting & wait your farther Directions.

I was charg'd by the Members of the Court, to mention to your Excellency, the propiety of considering our services among the Contingencies of the State & of makeing a proper alowence for the Same. I am with the greatest respect Your Most Obedient Humb'e Serv't

Benj. Tusten, Jur.

[To Gov. George Clinton.]

Goshen 25th Aug't 1778.

A General Court Martial held by Order of His Excellency George Clinton Esqr. Governor &c. of the State of New York for the Tryal of Capt. Benj'n Vail and all Prisoners that should be brought before this Court.

Lieut. Colo. Tusten President.

Major Blain	Members	Capt. Jones
Major Johnston		Capt. Sweesy
Capt. Watkins		Capt. Bartholof
Capt. Faulkner		Capt. McCamly
Capt. McBride		Capt. Van Doser
Capt. Guillespie		Capt. Pain
Capt. Clark		

Lieut. Jno. L. Moffat to act as Judge Advocate.

The President members and Judge Advocate sworn the Court djourned till to-morrow morning, Eight OClock.

Aug't 26th, the Court met according to Adjournment.

Capt. Benjamin Vail of Colo. McClaghry's Regt. brought be-
re this court and charged by Lieut. Colo. Newkirk, with Dis-
eying Orders, in refusing to march to Fort Arnold when
gally Ordered.

The Charge being read to the Prisoner, plead not Guilty but
fessed that he Received Colo. Newkirk Orders to march to
Arnold, but did not march agreeable to said Order, alledg-
in his Defence as followeth Viz: that when he receved Colo.
irk's Orders he was on Duty at Peenpack, then returned
in order to go, but reflecting on the Disorders and fears of
mily, Occationed by the apprehention of Danger from the
s, he could not think of leaving home at that Critical time,
nonstrated to Colo. Newkirk and Desired to be excused
ime, Declareing his Willingness to take the next Tour of
t received for answer that he could not be indulged, On
was preparing to go, but was taken sick, of which he
mation to Colo. Newkirk.

rt after examining and Considering the Charge and
the Prisoner, the Question being put wheather the
as Guilty or not, Unanimously Judged him to be
o order that he pay as a fine the sum of Fifty Dollars
red to his place of Honour and Trust as formerly.

d'w Miller, of Colo. Hathorn's Regt., brought before
Charged by Colo. Cantine with leaving his post at
er's and Retiring to Maj'r Johnis Decker's.
being read to the Prisoner, confessed his retiring

as afforesaid, but offers the following reasons, viz: that his party only consisted of Twenty one men and their amunition not amounting to three rounds Pr man, and not above one meal of meat, and three Days Provition of Flour in the Fort; and a few days before the evacuation of the Fort there was a Scout sent up to Coshahton and had a Skirmish with the Indians and took three Prisoners which Declared that Butler and Brant was coming down with their army, and two days afterwars Capt. Miller was informed by a man, that had been up the Deleware River and saw three Indians or white men painted, they being on the other side of the River, which told him that the main body of the enemy was a Coming to Minnisinck and offered to make oath of the same. Then Capt. Miller considering the Condition he was in as above mentioned thought prudent to evacuate the Fort.

Lieut. Colo. Newkirk being sworn saith that in conversation with Capt. Miller, both before and after his leaving his post, he had good reason to believe that they ware scant of amunition and the Deponent saith that said Miller's orders was Discretionary in holding the Post, in case that Capt. Miller had inteligence that a Superior force was comeing against his Post, and further that on his leaving the Ground he should inform the Deponent of the same which was done.

The court after hearing the evidences and alligations for and against Capt. Miller are of Oppinion that he has acted up to the Line of his Duty and do order that he be acquited of the charges against him and with Honour be restored to his place of power and trust as formerly.

Adjourned 'till Eight O'Clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday 27th Aug't the Court met,

Lieut. Tryon, of Colo. Allison's Regt., brought befor this court

and Charged by Col. Cantine with Deserting his post and using Discouraging Language among the Soldiery.

The Charge being read to the Prisoner, plead not Guilty.

Capt. Jackson being sworn saith that on the 20th Instant he received inteligence of the enemy's approaching, which Occationed some Disorder and Confusion among the men, by reason of their Cartridges being stole two nights runing before the allarm, but in the time of their Confusion Lieut. Tryon asked the Deponent if he did not think it advisable to cross the Neversink Kill; the Deponent did not recollect the Answer he gave, but intended if the enemy appeared in force and attacked him, to pased said Kill, and the Deponent further saith that he shortly was informed that Lieut. Tryon went to get his Horse at some short Distance from the place of Randezvous, and a little while afterwards returned to his post and the Deponent is of Oppinion that Lieut. Tryon wou'd not been absent had not it been for his horse, nor would he been gone so long had his horse been where he put him; the Deponent further saith that Lieut. Tryon behaved himself at all other times of Difficulty and Trouble as a good faithfull and trusty Officer ought to do, in every Respect, and the Deponent saith that he made inquiry if said Tryon used any Discouraging Language amounge the men; he could not learn that he did; Neither did he believe he had done the like.

The Court after hearing the evidences and alligations for and against Lieut. Tryon are of Oppinion that he is innocent of the Charges alledged against him and do Order that he be acquited of the same, and Restored with Honour to his place of power and trust as formerly,

Adjourned 'till further Orders from His Excellency.

Signed by Order of the Court.

Benj. Tusten, Presid't.

[No. 1721.]

Protests Against the Injustice Done to Captain John Copp.

Gentlemen, As an honest Man and a Friend to our Army, I take the Liberty to trouble you with a particular Matter in the important Business you are now upon, relative to Captain Copp,* of the first New York Battalion, commanded by Colonel Goose Van Schaick, who, I am informed, without the Knowledge of the Lieutenant Colonel or myself, is left out of the Arrangement of the Regiment for the New Establishment, not as a Supernumary, but as an Officer unfit for Service, which is such an Act of Cruelty to this Gentleman, and Injustice to the Service, that I cannot help declaring it to you Gentlemen, (As every good Officer in the Army that has heard it, do among themselves), not doubting you will hear the Circumstances, and do Justice to the injured.

Captain Copp is a young Gentleman of Spirit & Education, who withstood every Persuasion, and sacrificed the Friendship and Protection of all his Friends who were Gentlemen of the greatest Note and Fortune in the City of New York, and entered through Principle the Continental Army at the Commencement of the War.—Since which Time he has always served with Reputation, and when Opportunity offered, distinguished himself in the Field, particularly in the Battle of Monmouth.

And now through Jealousy of a Few of his Equals, and private Pique of a Superior in Commission, there is an Attempt made to turn him out of the Service that his whole Soul is engaged in, with a murdered Reputation. Pardon, Gentlemen, the Warmth of my Language that may appear to reflect on a superior Officer. It flows from an honest Heart, that is free from a single unjust ...te motive. I am now on my Way to Fishkills, on Business

*See document 1752, Volume IV.

that will not admit of Delay; in two or three Days I shall do myself the Honor to wait on you, when I expect the Lieutenant Colonel's Return, and make no Doubt of his Concurrence in this matter.

With the greatest Respect, I have the Honor to be Gentlemen, Your most obedient Servant

Benjamin Ledyard, Major 1st New York Regt.

August 31st 1778.

The Honorable The Commissioners for arranging the Army.

Copy.

Park of Artillery Sept'r 1st 1778.

Gentlemen, Being informed that Capt'n Copp is left out of the Arrangement of the New York Troops, and the Reason assigned for this Act of Injustice, is, that he is unfit to serve. This Assertion is unjust and not founded on Truth; as Captain Copp's Spirit and Abilities are well known, not only to myself, but to every Officer who has served with him in Canada and elsewhere. The Duty I owe my Country induces me to do him this Justice. I am, with great Respect, Gentlemen, your most obedient Servant

John Lamb, Colo: Artillery.

Hon'ble Commissioners of Arrangement.

Camp, near White Plains Sept'r 2d 1778.

Gentlemen, Though I have not the Honor of being personally acquainted with either of you, you will excuse the Liberty I take in recommending Captain John Copp to your particular Notice. He has long commanded a Company in Colonel Van Schaick's

Regiment of the State of New York, and though his Reputation is unsullyed I am told his Name is left out of the Arrangement of the New York Officers now under your Consideration. I own, I feel myself deeply interested in Captain Copp's Welfare, as we were Fellow Students at College, and I always concieved the most favorable Opinion of his Abilities and Gentlemanly Conduct.

His Zeal for the Liberties of his Country impelled him to sacrifice many respectable Connections and the most flattering private Views, and accept of a Commission in the Army at a very early Period. He served with General Montgomery in his Expedition to Canada, and gained great Applause. Last Campaign, he was in the Northern Department, and I can assure you with the greatest Truth, that I never heard the least Suspicion to his Prejudice.

These Reasons lead me to wish he may be continued in the Army on an honorable Footing; I could urge many more in his Favor, were I not convinced he will find the best Advocates in your Justice and Sensibility.

I have the Honor to be, Gentlemen, with the purest Esteem, your most obedient humble Servant,

Robert Troup, Aide De Camp to Major General Gates.

The Honorable Commissioners for arranging the Army.

[No. 1722.]

Gouverneur Morris Discusses Finances and Taxation.

Philadelphia 2d Sep'r 1778.

Sir, The rapid Depreciation of the Continental money as it greatly occupies the attention of Congress, so it calls aloud for the united Efforts and wisdom of every State of every Individual. Taxation is the only Remedy and it is by no means a meer meta-

phor to say that Expedients, however they may for a Time palliate, only encrease the Evil considered with a View to the radical Cure. Need I to you, Sir, or to those who I have the Honor to represent and whose political Character for wisdom & Firmness I am most happy to say stands high, Need I observe, that if by Funding our Paper the immense circulating medium could be so reduced that the Bills were brought on a Par with Specie, the Debt tho nominally the same, would in Fact be much greater because the Produce of the Country being low, it would require so much more of it to pay the same Sum. Early in this Controversy, the War carried on in Canada, brought a very great Sum of money into our State. At that time I wished to adopt Taxation which would even at that Hour have been productive in a great Degree. It was not adopted. Money it is said and justly is like water always seeking a Level; heap it up and it will run from you; take it out and it will run to you. The amazing Price of the Produce of our State at Present demands serious attention. If the Farmer is taxed a Bushel of Wheat now, he is taxed (as I am told) four Dollars; by and bye if taxed a Bushel of Wheat he will be taxed only one Dollar. I will not draw any Consequence but add that if a considerable Sum is taken now it will releive the State greatly hereafter.

I am most respectfully Your Excellency's most obedient & humble Servant

Gouv. Morris.

[To Gov. George Clinton.]

[No. 1723.]

Two More Tories Refuse to Take the Oath of Allegiance.

State of New York Ss, To his Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the State of New York, General and Commander in Chief of all the militia and admiral of the navy of the same.

In pursuance of an act of the Legislature of this State Entitled "an Act more effectually to prevent the mischiefs arising from the Influence and example of persons of "equivocal and Suspected Characters in this State," We do hereby notify your Excellency that Joseph Teed and William Brady of Dutchess County yeomen, having severally appeared before us, and being respectively tendered by us, the Oath in the said act Contained did severally refuse the same, and that unless your Excellency Shall think proper to detain them or either of them for any of the Subjects of this State in the power of the Enemy, we shall Cause them Respectively to be removed to Some place within the Enemy's Lines.

Robt. Harpur, Corn. E. Wynkoop, Jr., Peter Cantine, Jur. Zepha. Platt, Commissioners. Poughkeepsie 2nd September 1778.

[No. 1724.]

THE FAILURE IN RHODE ISLAND.

A Letter from General Sullivan—Moving Provisions to the Eastward.

White Plains 2nd Sept. 1778.

Sir, The extraordinary necessity under which we labour at present for forwarding a large quantity of Provisions to the eastward, and the very poor condition in which most of our public horses and oxen are, oblidges me to take the liberty of begging you would be so good as give your advice to the bearer Major Hale, in what part of the state, and by what means the least distressing to the inhabitants, a large number of waggons (I hope not less than a hundred), could be immediately raisd, for transporting that Provisions as far as Danbury, and bringing Provisions from Tarrytown into Camp, that our Horses and oxen may gett a little rest, as otherwise in a month more they will be rendered useless. Those who come may depend upon the best usage, a generous Price and immediate payment, as soon as their work is done, which would not detain them above a fortnight after their arrival at Kings Ferry where part of the provisions now lay, and the rest is dayly expected. In short, Sir, I can not see what the Army will do if we have not a considerable assistance from the upper part of this State.

The Day before yesterday a party of our Indians fell in with a party of the Enemy's light horse, who after a little skirmishing

retreated (probably on purpose), and by that means drawed the Indians after them into an open field, after passing a small part of which they found themselves attackd in the rear by a body of infantry, and in front by the retreating light horse who had returnd to the charge:—nineteen of the Indians are a missing, six of whom have been found dead on the field of action, the others are supposed to be taken Prisoners; we have likewise lost a Capt., and six Soldiers in that affair. By a Letter from General Sullivan* we had the following intelligence:

On the night preceding the 29th it was determind to retreat to the north end of the Island, the baggage & heavy cannon being, therefore, sent off; the Army was putt in motion, leaving Colonels W. S. Livingston and Laurens with the light infantry as a rear guard; the Enemy by some means having gott intelligence of the movement followd in two Columns, by the two roads which lead from N: Port to the north end of the Island, and about daylight came up with the rear guard, who skirmishd with them and still kept retreating in good order, the General not willing to bring on the action at that place, sent them but small reinforcements; they, therefore, continued to skirmish and retreat till they joind the main body, upon which the Enemy attempted to turn the right wing, but their motion for that purpose being timely discovered, a strong reinforcement was sent—we skirmishd with the Enemy a great part of the day; at last the action became nearly general, and lasted allmost an hour, when the Enemy gave way and retreated with precipitation: The loss was very considerable on both sides, and several officers on our side have fallen, though the General hopes (as the letter is dated from the

one waits impatiently for the particulars none of which have yett arrivd.

Whether the French fleet will or will not return to Rhode Island seems not thoroughly known; much must depend upon that circumstance. I have the Honour to be with much respect & esteem, Sir, Your most obed. & very humble Ser't

Udny Hay.

His Excellency Governor Clinton.

[No. 1725.]

DEATH OF HARMANUS DUMON.

Colonel Cantine Avers He Was Shot by a Guard from the Schoharie Rangers—A Successful Foraging Expedition.

Marbletown 4th Sept. 1778.

Dear Sir, The misfortune of Harmanis Dumon's Death or Being Wounded, I Received the 28th Ultomo which was then Supposed to Be Done By the Enemy, whose Number was Computed (By those who Brought the Intelligence first) to Be about two Hundred, I immediately ordered the Detatchment at Little Shandakan of Colo. Sneyder's Regim't to Joyn those at great Shandakan, Being one Company of about fifty men of Colo. Hasbrouck's Regim't and forty out of my own, which whould have made a Body of about one Hundred and thirty men, But the time of Colo. Hasbrouck's men was Just Exspired and those who where to Releif them not yet Come, which freequently is the Case, with those Releifs. So that, all the men on those two posts Could muster But about Seventy or Eighty men, with which I Intended to have marched Immediately to Packatackan, But on my arival at Great Shandakan, I found None there But those of my own Regim't, Colo. Sneyder's Not Being Come, On account

of Not haveing a Suffitient Supply of provision Ready, (as they Say). I then was oblidged to send for them a Second time, on which they Immediately Came. I, previous to this, had Sent three men as Spies to that place, who were to meet me four mile from Packatackan. Next morning I proceeded on my way, Came there about four o'Clock in the after Noon with Seventy men with me, Buried Dumon that afternoon, who was Dyed the Night after he was Shot, and By the Best Information I Could git he had Been Shot By our own gaurd from Scohary; there where two men Belonging to the gaurd who where know to Be the Sons, of a man who formerly teatched School at Packatackan, Since moveed to Scohary and Belong Now to Harper's Rangers, as I have Been Informed by the people of Packatackan. After they had Shot Dumon and was Lying in his Bed, Some of them Said they had a mind to tomahack him; Stript him of his Shouse, Buckles, hat and Some other trifles. I Shall Not Inter Into the perticulars of the Behavour of that gaurd, as I have Directed those of the Inhabitants I Could Depend on, to go to Colo. Pawling and make affidavits thereof, who has promised me to transmit them to your Excellency as Soon as he Could Collect them together. I whould only mention that Dumon was & has Been the Cheif man we Depended on for Intelligence from that Quarter, and Petter Burger and Albartus Sluyter where Never known or held to Be Enemys to their Cuntry, who have Been Plundered by them of all ye whearing apparal Belonging to their families. I have Distroyed and Brought of all kind of provisions in that place, Leaving None of ye families or their affects, But ye aforesaid Sluyter and Burger and one Fradrick Kittle (with Bearly So much grain and milk Cattle as to maintain their families) they Solesited it as a favour of me, to Let them Stay. I told them

I was willing to Do any thing for the good of their families, But, that I Exspected that ye favour they askt whould prove their Ruin. Kittle has promised me to give Intelligenc if I Send to him by persons who he Can Depend will Not Deceive him; the Scout I had to Papakton is Returned; they have Brought one Commans, who is a Commarade of Birch whome they Say they have wounded; Hendrick Bush they Happened to See on ye opposit Side of the River; thay Endeavoured to make him Stand, But he Steping forward Behind a tree, Seven of them fired and Lodged Seven Balls in the tree he Stud Behind; the River their Being to Deep to waid, made His Escape Leaving his hat Behind him. Thay have Brought of Very Considerable of Sheeps, Hogs, and Cattle also a Quantity of Dears Leather; Destroyed all ye grain on the River for tweenty miles, Exceept Indian Corn (tho they where but thirteen In Number). I will Send a Scout to Destroy that as Soon as possible. There are Some who offer Vollenteryly to go to Aughquago. I whould Be glad to have your opinion wether advisable to Let them go.

I am with Esteem Dear Sir Your affectionate frind & Hum'e Ser't

John Cantine.

To his Excellency, Geo. Clinton.

[No. 1726.]

Governor Clinton Issues an Order Based on Colonel Udny Hay's Request.

Sep'r 4th 1778.

It being represented to his Excellency the Governor that a number of Teams are wanting which cannot be supplied by the Qr. Mr. Genl. on the pres't Emergency for the purpose of transport'g Provisions for the use of the Enemy, and the Qr. Mr. Genl.

having applied to his Excellency for his advice & assistance in the Premises, his Excellency therefore, requires the Justices of the diff't Districts within this State to exert themselves in aiding the Qr. Mr. Genl. or his Assistants in procuring Teams for the purpose aforesaid by strictly execut'g the act of the Legislature of this State in such Case made & provided.

[No. 1727.]

Association of Exempts in Kings District, Albany County.

We, the Subscribers, Being Under the Age of fifty five years, who Have held Civil or Military Commisions and have Not been reappointed to our Respective Rank of Office or being betwen the Age of fifty and fifty five years Do hereby Severally Engage, that we will Respectively on All Occasions, obey the orders of our Respective Commanding Officers, and will in Case of invasion or Incursions of the Enemy or Insurrection March to Repell the Enemy or Surpress such Insurrections in the Like manner as the Enrolled Militia are Compelled to do, so as we shall not, when Called out in Detachments be annexed to any other Regiment or company, or be under amediate Command of any other than our own officers. Witness our hands this 4th Day of September in the year 1778.

Zadoc Chapin, Silas Howard, Alexander Mcqueen, Jonathan Avery, Walles Hurd, Joseph Attwell, Thaddeus Noble, Asa Preston, Jacob Farington, Samuel Russell, Hezekiah Baldwin, Elijah Skinner, David Finney, Solomon Wright, Nathan Chatham, Parker Pabody, Samuel Ralph, Jonathan Rus, John Strananhan, Eri Jones, Samuel Portor, Saml. Jacocks, David Williams, Asa Peese, David Spensor, Tenes Curties, Jacob Ferris, Nehemiah

Seelye, Gideon King, George Darrow, David Wright, Noah Torrey, Samll. Lewis, Elnathan Griffeth, Jonathan Dowgles, Isaac Herrington, Moses Jones, Zebulon Robbins, Jur., Peter Ayrs.

We, the Subscribers, being a Majority of the Company of Associated Exempts enrolled on the other Part of this Sheet of Paper do hereby Recommend to the Honorable the Council of Appointment: Thaddeus Noble, to be Captain; Jonathan Dougless, to be st Lieutenant; Moses Jones, to be sd Lieutenant; Elijah Skinner, to be Ensign of the said Company. Witness our hands this 4th Day of September in the Year 1778. Kings District in Albany County.

Zadoc Chapin, Silas Howard, Alexander Mcqueen, Jonathan Avery, Walles Hurd, Joseph Attwell, Asa Preston, Jacob Farington, Samuel Russell, Heze. Baldwin, David Finney, Solomon Wright, Nathan Chatchum, Parker Payboy, Samuel Ralph, Jonathan Rus, John Straahan, Eri Jones, Samuel Porter, Saml. Jecocks, David Williams, Asa Peese, David Spencor, Tenes Curtis, Jacob Ferris, Nehemiah Seelye, Gideon King, George Derrow, David Wright, Noah Torrey, Samll. Lewis, Elnathan Griffeth, Jacob Herrington, Zebulon Robbins, Junr., Peter Ayrs, Nathan Peabody, Israeel Phelps.

[No. 1728.]

Governor Clinton Recommends Professor Addison's School at Kingston for Young Mr. Paris.

Poughkeepsie 4th Sep'r 1778.

Rev'd Sir, I am favoured with your Letter of the 28th Ultimo by young Mr. Paris. It will give me great Pleasure to render the Son of so Worthy a Patriot every Service in my Power &

I shall be happy if any Aid I can give him will enable him to acquire a Charecter in Public Life equal to that which his Worthy Father maintained & support it with like Reputation.

From the Conversation I have had with the young Gentleman, I find that he has not a sufficient Acquaintance with the learned Languages to enter upon the Study of the Law to Advantage & that he is deficient also in Point of Mathematical Knowledge which is equally useful. It is, therefore, my Oppinion that he ought to spend at least a year or two at some good Schooll where he may acquire a Competent Mathematic Knowledge & of the Latin Language, And for this Purpose (if you, Sir, & Mr. Paris agree with me in Sentiments) I woud recommend him to the Academy under the Direction of Mr. Addisson at Kingston as the best & Cheapest I know. He shall have my warmest Recommendation to the Tutor and any Familly with whom he may chuse to Board. My House shall be always open to his Vissits whenever a Relaxation from his Studies will admit. I am Sir with great Regard Yours &c.

[G. C.]

The Rev'd Mr. Gros.

[No. 1729.]

Daniel Denton Refuses to Take the Oath of Allegiance.

State of New York Ss,

To his Excellency George Clinton Esquire Governor of the State of New York General and Commander in Chief of all the militia and admiral of the navy of the same.

In pursuance of an act of the Legislature of this State Entitled "An act more effectually to prevent the mischiefs arising from the Influence and example of persons of "Equivocal and Suspected Characters in this State," We do hereby notify your Excellency that Daniel Denton of Ulster County, having appeared before us, and being by us tendered the Oath in the said act Contained did refuse to take the same, unless your Excellency Shall think proper to detain him for the purpose of exchanging him for any of the Subjects of this State in the power of the Enemy we shall cause him to be removed to some place within the Enemy's Lines.

Peter Cantine, Jur. Corn. E. Wynkoop, Jr. Robt. Harpur, Commissioners.

Poughkeepsie September 4th 1778.

[No. 1730.]

Thomas Russell Requests Permission to Import 250 Barrels of Flour into Massachusetts.

Boston, September 5, 1778.

May it please Your Excellency, The Inhabitants of this Town being drove to great Distress on Account of the very great scarcity of Flour, has induced me to apply to Our Council for a recommendation through that Hon'bl Board, to your Excellency, for leave to import into this State, Two Hundred & fifty Barrells of Flour for the Use of its Inhabitants only; the Council conscious of the most speady Method being immediately adopted to supply the Town, have given me the Inclos'd Recommendation to your Excellency to import into this Town by my Friend & Agent Peter R. Livingston, Esqr., in whose Name must beg Your Excellency to give the permission for that purpose. I am very Respectfully Your Excellency's Most Humble Servant

Thom's Russell.

To George Clinton Esqr. Governor & Commander in Chief of the State of New York, Paughkeepsie.

[No. 1731.]

Exempts Within Limits of Colonel Hathorn's Regiment, Orange County.

We whose names are hereunto subscribed, being Exempts of Col. John Hathorn's Regiment of Militia of Orange County, in obedience to the Act for Regulateing the Militia of this State, have ascociated and voluntary Eleeted our officers in manner following Viz. Benjamin Edsall, Captain; Richard Welling first and John Vance Second Lieut; & Antho'y Finn Ensign; and we do hereby recommend the said Benj'n Edsall Capt. Rich'd Well-

ing first John Vance second Lieut., & An'y Finn Ensign, and do Engage to do our duty respectively in Conformity to the said Militia Law; we hope your Honourable Board will Issue Commissions agreeable to the said Recommendation. Witness our hands this Fifth Day of September 1778. The Hon'ble the Council of Appointment for the State of New York.

John Price, John Wood, Nathaniel Minthorn, Richard Jonston, John Thorp, Samuel Lobdell, John Hopper, John Armstrong, John Debow, Jonas Roe, David Jones, Richard Heriman, Augustain Rogers, Witter Cure, David Rogers, Thomas Goldsmith, Thomas Decay, James Miller, Abraham Alyea, John Bigger, William Howard.

Warwick Fifth September 1778.

Gentlemen, This may Certify that we were pressent and saw the Exempts within named, subscribe the within recommendation and we know nothing to the Contrary of the persons herein recommended being strict friends to the Independancy of America.

John Hathorn.

The Hon'ble the Council of Appointment for the State of New York.

[No. 1732.]

Governor Clinton Specifies What Offences Are of a Capital Nature—The Troops at Schoharie and Cherry Valley.

Albany 5th Septemb'r 1778.

Sir, I am Hon'd with your Excellency's favors of the 31st Ultimo & 1st Instant with a letter Inclosed for Colonel Whiting.

I have Ordered agreeable to your Excell'cys directions, one fourth part of Colonel Rensselaer's, Livingston's & Van Alstyn's Regim'ts to march to Fort Arnold without delay.

I am still at a loss to know whether a militia Regimental Court martial have the Power of Trying Persons who have Refused or neglected to march, after notice given, or having marched who have deserted, & whom the militia Law declares shall be dealt with as Deserters, are these Capitol Offences, will your Excellency be so good as to Inform me?

I inclose your Excellency Copy of Returns Rec'd from Schohary & Cherry Valey, These Detachments are Ordered to be Relieved on the 17th Instant, by a like Number from the Respective Regts. mentioned in these Returns. We have no Paymaster here to pay off the militia, this Causes them to Complain greatly. I am with great Respect Your Excel'cys Most Obdt. Humble Servant

Ab'm Ten Broeck.

His Excell'cy George Clinton Esqr.

A general Return of the militia Stationed at Schohary under the Command of Lieut. Colonel Beekman Aug'st 27th 1778.

Regiments	Lieut. Coll.	Major	Captains	Lieuts.	Ensigns	Adjutant	Q. master	Serjeants	Fifers	Drummers	Corporals	Privates	Total	Men ordered by the Lieut. being ¼ part of each Regt.
Kill'n Van Rensselaer	1	1	1		1			4	1		3	21	34	89
Lansing's			1			1	1	3			3	36	46	60
Philip P. Schuyler's			1					4		1	3	41	52	75
Van Bergen's			1					4			2	23	31	48
Quackenboss's			1		1			3			3	21	31	57
Wemple's			1			1		4				37	44	90
Stephen J. Schuyler's			1					2		1		12	17	56
Vrooman's					1			3				36	42	62
Total	1	1	7	9	3	2	1	27	1	2	14	229	297	537

Copy.

John A. Beekman, Lt. Col.

A Return of a Detachment of militia under the Command of Lieut. Colonel Barent Staats on Command at Cherry Valey.

Regiments	Lt. Colonel	major	Captains	1st Lieuts.	2d Lieuts.	Ensigns	Adjutant	Qr. master	Serjt. major	Qr. M. Serjt.	Serjeants	Corporals	Drum and fife	Privates	Total	number of men Ordered by the General being 1 of each Regiment
Robt Van Rensselaer				1	1						2	2		16	22	63
Peter Van Ness's		1	1	1	1			1		1	5	4		30	45	79
Abr'm J. Van Alstyn				1							2	1		16	20	51
Wm. B Whiting			1	1	1	1	1		1		4	3	1	39	53	94
Peter R. Livingston						non	e joi	ned								130
Total	1	1	2	4	3	1	1	1	1	1	13	10	1	101	140	417

Cherry Valey 27th August 1778.

Copy.

Barent Staats Lt. Coll.

Poughkeepsie Sept'r 10th 1778.

Sir, His Excellency the Gov'r (who is gone a small Distance into the Country) directed me to acknowledge the Rec't of your favor of the 5th Inst. with the Returns inclos'd and to inform you (that in his Opinion) the Offences alluded to in your Letter are of a capital nature & therefore cognizable at a Genl. Ct. martial only, the Proceed'gs whereof should be reported to the Commander in Chief for his approbation. I am &c.

Robt. Benson.

The hon'ble Brig'r Genl. Ten Broeck.

[No. 1733.]

THE GOVERNOR ACTS WITH PROMPTNESS.

Directs Colonel William Butler to Apprehend Mr. Dumon's Murderers and Turn Them Over to the Civil Authorities.

Marbletown Sep'r 5th 1778.

S'r. Inclos'd I Send your Excellency Some affidavits which points out that their has been a party of men from Schohary, to Poughkataken Killd Haramanus Dumon; Carry'd of a Number of Horses, and Many other articles which are not Numerated in the affidavits; Dumon was the only Friend we had in that Settlement; he Continued Their as long as he Thought him Self and family Safe; at lenght thought him Self In danger, moved Down with his family, whent up with his waggon To fetch Some things he had left, was killd by Men who have acted with the greatest Imprudence.

I also Inclose a letter which I Just Now Rec'd, Sent me from Rochester; the bearer Informd me, that a party of the Enemy had been last night and burnt Three houses, killd one Andries Shurker, and took Peter Miller and one Ephram Baker prisoner. what number of the Enemy I have not heard, they sent Shurker's wife, to John's G. Hardenbergh's with the Letter. These people lived not far From Hardenbergh. I have no perticular account To give of the matter, I expect Coll. Contine will write to your Excellency, and give you the perticulars. I am S'r with great Esteem your Most Humble Serv't

Levi Pawling.

His Excellency George Clinton.

P—6th Sep'r 1778.

D'r Sir, I have received your Letter of yesterday. I have only Time to Answer it by referring you to the inclosed Letters to

Colos. Butler & Cantine for your Perusal which you'l please when you have read, to seal & deliver that to Colo. Cantine to the Bearer Mr. Keator. Mr. Dumond tells me you have consented to be the Bearer of the other. I am extreamly sorry to hear the account of new Misschief on the Frontier & wish sincerely it was in my Power to take more effectual Measures to give the Inhabitants perfect protection & safety. I am with great Regard Your Most Obed't Serv't

Geo. Clinton.

The original affidavits are returned inclosed.

Colo. Pawling.

Poughkeepsie 6th Sep'r 1778.

Dear Sir, By a Number of Affidavits which will be handed to you by the Bearer you will learn that Hamanus Dumond, late an Inhabitant of Poughetaghten on the Delaware, was lately cruely murdered by a Party of Men supposed to be from the Neighbourhood of Schohary under the Command of Colo. Harper. What adds to the Cruelty of this transaction, is that Dumond had for some Time Passt remained at his Habitation at Poughataghten at the Request of Colo. Cantine, who commands the Militia in actual service on the Frontiers of Ulster & Orange Counties for the Purpose of acquiring & transmitting him Intelligence which he had frequently done. But the Danger increasing in that Quarter, he was now moving into the securer Settlements with his Effects, of which the Party who Shot & plundered him, after he was mortally wounded, even of his wearing apparel, was informed & coud not doubt. You will also perceive by the Affidavits, that several other of the well disposed Inhabitants were plundered of their Effects by this Party. Placing the greatest Confidence in you & considering you as immediately Commanding the Militia

in actual Service in your Quarter, I have, therefore, to request that you will cause the Effects of Dumond & the other Persons who were plundered by the above Party, to be restored to the Bearer, for the use of the owners, and that you will deliver the Delinquents over to the Civil Authority to be dealt with according to their Crimes. I am Sir with great Respect Your most Obed't Serv't

[G. C.]

Colo. Wm. Butler Com'g at Schohary.

[No. 1734.]

LOANS TO THE STATES.

Funds Advanced by the National Government—Gouverneur Morris's Patriotic Utterances.

Philadelphia 6' Sep'r 1778.

Sir, By Doctor Jones who will deliver this to your Excellency, I do myself the Honor to enclose a short memorandum of the Sums advanced from the Continental Treasury to the several States of the Union. I shall make no Comments. The Paper contains Information and, therefore, I have sent it to your Excellency's Prudence.

Doctor Jones hath informed me that a Law lately passed bears very hard upon many Individuals of the State of N. York, who being willing to become faithful Subjects are nevertheless incapable from what they call conscientious Principles to take an Oath prescribed in it. This Information is corroborated from other Quarters. What the Law or Oath are I know not, nor will I pretend even to suppose that against either there is well-grounded Cause of Complaint. Seriously, I have too good an Opinion of our Legislature to believe they would wantonly sport

with the Feelings of mankind. But, Sir, I cannot help mentioning, that in my Opinion it is not good Policy to banish useful Citizens, and that it is better to bend the Spirit of Legislation at Times even to the Prejudices of the People, than to scatter the Riches and Strength of the State among Strangers—what is worse among Enemies. Excuse me, Sir, If I am too free. I am of no Party but that of my Country and as I always have, so I trust I always shall, consult her Interests according to that measure of abilities which it hath pleased Heaven to dispense to me.

I have the Honor to be with deep Respect Your Excellency's most obedient & humble Servant

Gouv. Morris.

[To Gov. George Clinton.]

New Hampshire....	679,000	Maryland	607,000
Massachusetts	1,150,000	Virginia	370,000
Rhode Island.....	1,392,000	North Carolina.....	700,000
Connecticut	676,000	South Carolina.....	930,000
New York.....	485,000	Georgia	1,036,000
New Jersey.....	546,000		
Pensilvania	2,182,000		11,002,000
Delaware	49,000		

[No. 1735.]

TO DESTROY OQUAGA.

Governor Clinton's Orders to Colonel Cantine—Public Property Not Private Plunder.

Poughkeepsie 6th Sp'r 1778.

Dear Sir, I have received your Letter of the 4th Instant with an Account of the Unhappy Fate of Hermanus Dumond, and I am this Morning favoured with a Letter from Colo. Pawling in-

closing Sundry Affidavits on that Subject of which the proper use will be made. Colo. Pawling informs me that the Enemy night before last, burnt three Houses, killed one Andrus Shurker, & took Peter Miller & Ephraim Baker, Prisoners. This Misschief, if I understand the Geography of the Country & am not misstaken as to the particular Situation of the above Persons' Habitations, might have been prevented had your Guard occupied its first Post at Lackawack. Colo. Pawling also transmitted me a Letter subscribed with the Mark of Capt. Ben Shank & John Rennope a Copy of which you have inclosed.

I am much surprized to learn that the Parties of Militia which have been sent out to the Settlements on the Delaware to remove the Cattle & Effects from thence, and thereby prevent their serving as Supplies to the Enemy, have considered what they have brought off as Plunder & accordingly appropriated the same to their own Use. Upon what Principle or by what Authority this is done you must best know. That it is contrary to every Idea of Justice & good Policy & will be productive of much Misschief is certain. I am bound, therefore, to call upon you to exercise your Authority as Commanding Officer of the Detachments of Militia in actual Service on the Frontier of Ulster & Orange Counties not only to prevent the like abuses in Future, but to have the passt to be rectified as far as may be in your Power. I am fully convinced that we are not to have Peace on our Frontier, untill the Straggling Indians & Tories who infest it are exterminated or drove back & their Settlements destroyed. If, therefore, you can destroy the Settlement of Acquago it will in my Oppinion be a good Piece of Service. I am Sir Your Most Obed't Ser't

[G. C.]

[To Col. Cantine.]

lieve that Genl. Starke has been punished or even r
his Offence which you will readilly perceive is no les
ing imployed the Authority & Arms of the Continent
Liberties of the Subjects of this State—that the Sile
gress on this Occassion after the Matter was referr
Decission by his Excellency Genl. Washington may be
as countenancing these unwarantable Measures.

The Indians & Tories continue to commit Depredati
western Frontiers—last week they destroyed 3 Barn
men & carried off two Prisoners—and a small party of
who pursued & fell in w'th them had their Officers & 2
w'thout doing the Enemy any Injury that I can learn.
great Respect Gent. Your Most Obed't Serv't

Geo.

The hon'ble The Delegates for the State of New York in

END OF VOLUME III.

MAY 1 2 1931